Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration
Health Care Facility Improvement Project
for the
Wasco State Prison
Wasco, California

Prepared for:

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Facility Planning, Construction and Management Division
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January 16, 2014

FACILITY PLANNING, CONSTRUCTION AND MANAGEMENT
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California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Public Notice Announcement
Release of an Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration for the Health Care Facility Improvement Project at the Wasco State Prison

What's Being Planned: The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has released for public review the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration (IS/Proposed ND) for the Health Care Facility Improvement Project at the Wasco State Prison (WSP). The proposed project includes renovations and additions to existing health care facilities, the construction of small new facilities, and associated infrastructure improvements, all within the developed area of WSP. Specifically, the project includes construction of a new correctional case management building, four new primary care clinics, medication distribution rooms, and additions and/or renovations to an existing primary care clinic, the central health services building and the reception center health care processing building. Proposed improvements would include a total of 16,362 square feet of renovation, 23,497 square feet of new building space, and 7,050 square feet of exterior impervious surface. All construction would be consistent in character, design, and height with other existing buildings and would not exceed one story. No high-mast lighting would be installed as part of the project. The project does not include any new inmate beds. Nine additional employees would be hired. The project would not result in expansion of the existing secure perimeter.

The WSP project would remedy deficiencies in its health care delivery at WSP through renovation of existing health care facilities and construction of new health care facilities. CDCR anticipates construction of the proposed project would begin in February 2016, with an estimated completion date of October 2016.

Project Location: The entire proposed project would be built within existing WSP boundaries. WSP is located on approximately 270 of 630 acres owned by CDCR at 701 Scofield Avenue in Wasco, California. WSP is approximately three miles west of Wasco and 30 miles northwest of Bakersfield. WSP is surrounded by agricultural land, a small residential area, the Valley Rose Golf Course and the Wasco Cemetery (northeast); two rural residences, and agricultural land (west); agricultural land and wastewater treatment plant (east); undeveloped and agricultural land (south); and agricultural land (north).

Environmental Effects: CDCR has prepared an IS/Proposed ND pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15063. CDCR has studied the effects that the proposed project may have on the environment. The studies show that the project would have less than significant effects on the quality of the environment and no mitigation is required.

Where You Come In: As lead agency under CEQA, CDCR is releasing the IS/Proposed ND for public review and comments. The IS/Proposed ND is available for a 30-day public review period from January 21, 2014 to February 19, 2014.

Where to Review the Environmental Document and Provide Comments: Formal comments regarding the IS/Proposed ND may be submitted in writing via mail, e-mail, or fax any time during the public review period. The IS/Proposed ND is available for a 30-day public review period from January 21, 2014 to February 19, 2014. Written comments regarding the scope and content of information in the IS/Proposed ND or any questions regarding the document should be postmarked no later than **February 19, 2014**. Comments may be sent to:

Roxanne Henriquez, Senior Environmental Planner
Environmental Planning Section
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9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B
Sacramento, CA 95827
Phone: (916) 255-3010
Fax: (916) 255-3030
Email: Roxanne.Henriquez@cdcr.ca.gov

Copies of the IS/Proposed ND and all documents referenced in the IS/Proposed ND are available for public review during regular business hours at the office of CDCR identified above.

Digital copies of the IS/Proposed ND are available on the internet at http://www.cdcr.ca.gov /FPCM/Environmental.html.

Paper copies of the IS/Proposed ND are available for public review at the following location:

Wasco Branch Kern County Library
1102 7th Street
Wasco, CA 93280

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Project: **Health Care Facility Improvement Project for the Wasco State Prison (WSP), Wasco, California (SCH No. *to be determined)***

Lead Agency: **California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)**

Project Description: The proposed project includes renovations and additions to existing health care facilities, the construction of small new facilities, and associated infrastructure improvements, all within the developed area of WSP. Specifically, the project includes construction of a new correctional case management building, four new primary care clinics, medication distribution rooms, and additions and/or renovations to an existing primary care clinic, the central health services building, and the reception center health care processing building. Proposed improvements would include a total of 16,362 square feet of renovation, 23,497 square feet of new building space, and 7,050 square feet of exterior impervious surface. All construction would be consistent in character, design, and height with other existing buildings and would not exceed one story. No high-mast lighting would be installed as part of the project. The project does not include any new inmate beds. Nine additional employees would be hired. The project would not result in expansion of the existing secure perimeter.

The WSP project would remedy deficiencies in health care delivery at WSP through renovation of existing health care facilities and construction of new health care facilities. These improvements would provide the necessary facility infrastructure to support a timely, competent, and effective medical care delivery system at WSP.

Environmental Findings: An Initial Study (IS) was prepared to assess the significance of the project's potential impacts on the environment. Based on the IS, and because of environmental protection features that CDCR has committed to before release of the proposed Negative Declaration (ND) and IS for public review, in light of the whole record, CDCR finds that the project will not have substantial adverse effects on the environment and no mitigation is necessary. This conclusion is supported by the following findings:

- The proposed project would have no impact to agricultural and forest resources, land use and planning, mineral resources, or recreation.

- The proposed project would have less than significant impacts on aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, population and housing, public services, transportation/traffic, and utilities and service systems.

Questions or comments regarding this ND and IS may be addressed to:

Roxanne Henriquez, Senior Environmental Planner
Environmental Planning Section
Facility Planning, Construction and Management
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B
Sacramento, CA 95827
Roxanne.Henriquez@cdcr.ca.gov
Phone: 916-255-3010

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, CDCR may (1) adopt the ND and approve the proposed project, (2) undertake additional environmental studies, or (3) disapprove the project. If the project is approved, CDCR may proceed with implementation of the project.

Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, CDCR has independently reviewed and analyzed the IS and ND for the proposed project and finds that the IS and ND reflect the independent judgment of CDCR.

I hereby approve this project:

Signature Pending Close of 30-day Public Comment Period _____

DEBORAH HYSEN Date
Director (A)
Facility Planning, Construction and Management
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

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LIST OF APPENDICES

The digital version of this IS/Proposed ND and its Appendices are available on the CD affixed to the back cover.

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List of Exhibits

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
AB	Assembly Bill
AQAP	Air Quality Attainment Plan
ARB	California Air Resources Board
ASU	Administrative Segregation Unit
Cal OSHA	California Division of Occupational Safety and Health
CalEEMod	California Emissions Estimator Model
CBC	California Building Code
CCHCS	California Correctional Health Care Services
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDCR	California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Emergency Services Act
CHS	Central Health Services
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNEL	community noise equivalent level
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide
CUPA	Certified Unified Program Agency
CWHR	California Wildlife Habitat Relationship system
dB	logarithmic decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DMG	Division of Mines and Geology
DPM	diesel particulate matter
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FMMP	Farmland and Mapping Monitoring Program
GAMAQI	Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts
GHG	greenhouse gas
gpm	gallon(s) per minute
HCFIP	Health Care Facility Improvement Program

HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
IS	Initial Study
kV	kilovolt
L_{eq}	equivalent sound level
L_{max}	maximum sound level
L_{min}	minimum sound level
LOS	level of service
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
LVN	Licensed Vocational Nurse
MBA	Michael Brandman Associates
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MW	megawatt
mgd	million gallons per day
$MMTCO_2e$	million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
$MTCO_2e$	metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents
ND	Negative Declaration
NESHAP	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NOA	naturally occurring asbestos
NO_x	oxides of nitrogen
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
PM_{10}	particulate matter with a diameter between 10 micrometers and 2.5 micrometers
$PM_{2.5}$	particulate matter with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers
ppm	parts per million
PPV	peak particle velocity
PRC	Public Resources Code
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
ROG	reactive organic gases
SJVAB	San Joaquin Valley Air Basin
SJVAPCD	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
SR	State Route
TAC	toxic air contaminant
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VMT	vehicle miles traveled

VOC	volatile organic compound
WSP	Wasco State Prison

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 - Introduction and Regulatory Guidance

This Initial Study/Proposed Negative Declaration (IS/Proposed ND) has been prepared by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with implementing health care facility improvements as part of CDCR's Health Care Facility Improvement Program (HCFIP) at the Wasco State Prison (WSP), located in the City of Wasco in Kern County. The proposed project includes renovations and additions to existing health care facilities, the construction of small new facilities, and associated infrastructure improvements, all within the existing WSP footprint. Proposed improvements would include a total of 16,362 square feet of renovation, 23,497 square feet of new building space, and 7,050 square feet of exterior impervious surface. All construction would be consistent in character, design, and height with other existing buildings and would not exceed one story. No high-mast lighting would be installed as part of the project. The project does not include any new inmate beds. Nine additional employees would be hired to meet the staffing needs of the new buildings. The project would not result in expansion of the existing secure perimeter.

This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000, et seq.). Under CEQA, an Initial Study (IS) can be prepared by a lead agency to determine if a project may have a significant effect on the environment (CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(a)) and, thus, to determine the appropriate environmental document. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a "public agency shall prepare . . . a proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration . . . when: (a) The initial study shows that there is no substantial evidence . . . that the project may have a significant impact on the environment, or (b) The initial study identifies potentially significant effects but revisions to the project plans or proposal are agreed to by the applicant and such revisions would reduce potentially significant effects to a less-than-significant level." In this circumstance, the lead agency prepares a written statement describing its reasons for concluding that the proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

As described in Section 3 of this IS/Proposed ND, CDCR has found no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. Based on the IS/Proposed ND, and because of environmental protection features that CDCR has committed to before release of the IS/Proposed ND for public review, the proposed project would avoid environmental effects to a point where, clearly, no significant effects would occur. Therefore, an IS/Proposed ND is the appropriate document for compliance with the requirements of CEQA. This IS/Proposed ND conforms to these requirements and to the content requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15071.

1.2 - Purpose of Document

Under CEQA, the lead agency is the public agency with primary responsibility over approval of the proposed project. CDCR is the lead agency for the proposed project. CDCR has directed the preparation of an analysis that complies with CEQA. At the direction of CDCR, Michael Brandman Associates (MBA) has prepared this document. The purpose of this document is to present to decision-makers and the public the environmental consequences of implementing the proposed project. This disclosure document is being made available to the public for review and comment. The IS/Proposed ND is available for a 30-day public review period from January 21, 2014 to February 19, 2014.

If you wish to send written comments (including via e-mail), they must be postmarked by February 19, 2014. Written comments should be addressed to:

Roxanne Henriquez, Senior Environmental Planner
Environmental Planning Section
Facility Planning, Construction and Management
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B
Sacramento, CA 95827
Roxanne.Henriquez@cdcr.ca.gov

If you have questions regarding the IS/Proposed ND, please call Roxanne Henriquez at (916) 255-3010.

After comments are received from the public and reviewing agencies, CDCR may (1) adopt the ND and approve the proposed project; (2) undertake additional environmental studies; or (3) abandon the project. If the project is approved and funded, CDCR could proceed with all or part of the project.

A copy of the IS/Proposed ND is available for public review online at http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/FPCM /Environmental.html and at the following public library:

Kern County Library, Wasco Branch
1102 7th Street
Wasco, CA 93280

1.3 - Summary of Findings

Section 3, Environmental Checklist of this document contains the analysis and discussion of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

Based on the issues evaluated in that section, it was determined that the proposed project would have no impacts requiring the incorporation of mitigation.

The project was determined to have no impacts related to the following issue areas:

- Agricultural and Forest Resources
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Recreation

Impacts of the proposed project were determined to be less than significant for the following issue areas:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

1.4 - Document Organization

This IS/Proposed ND is organized as described below.

Section 1: Introduction. This section provides an introduction to the environmental review process. It describes the purpose and organization of this document and presents a summary of findings.

Section 2: Project Description and Background. This section describes the purpose of and need for the proposed project, including its place within the HCFIP, and provides a detailed description of the proposed project.

Section 3: Environmental Checklist. This section presents an analysis of a range of environmental issues identified in the CEQA Environmental Checklist and determines if each of a range of impacts would result in no impact, a less than significant impact, a less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated, or a potentially significant impact. If any impacts were determined to be potentially significant, an EIR would be required. However, for this project, CDCR has committed to and incorporated environmental protection features before release of the IS/Proposed ND for public review. Therefore, the proposed project would avoid the effects to a point where, clearly, no significant effects would occur and no mitigation is required.

Section 4: References. This section lists the references used in preparation of this IS/Proposed ND.

Section 5: List of Preparers. This section identifies report preparers.

SECTION 2: PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

2.1 - Introduction

CDCR plans to implement various health care facility improvements at WSP located in Wasco, California. The improvements include the addition and renovation of existing facilities and small, new health care facilities, all of which would be located within the existing WSP footprint. The proposed improvements to existing facilities would add health care treatment space, clinical support space, and office space to support the existing health care program. The proposed project would also support WSP's existing operations as a "Reception Center" institution within the CDCR Health Care Facility Improvement Program (HCFIP) strategy to address statewide prison health care physical deficiencies in its facilities. Reception Center institutions receive incoming inmates from counties, requiring them to provide both Basic and Intermediate levels of care to their inmate-patient population until they are classified and transferred to the appropriate institution. Intermediate inmate-patients are those identified as having multiple chronic and/or terminal illnesses requiring a high level of care such that tertiary care consultation and specialized services must be available. Intermediate institutions are those designed with the capability of providing specialized medical services and consultation, including those that utilize advanced technologies such as cardiology for inmate-patients with chronic illnesses (see Health Care Facility Improvement Program, Program Overview [April 2012]).

WSP's inmate population has been decreased by 1,133 inmates, 18 percent of the 2004 population, as of 2012. CDCR's long-term plan of operations, as detailed in the Future of California Corrections (referred to as the Blueprint), calls for further decreases in the population at WSP. Along with inmate population reductions, WSP has seen a corresponding reduction of the prison's impacts on environmental and infrastructure resources such as water, sewer, solid waste, and energy.

The proposed project does not include any new inmate beds. Nine additional staff members would be added to WSP to meet the custody and building maintenance needs of the new buildings. The concentration of inmate-patients requiring an Intermediate level of care, at 11 facilities statewide, allows the specialized services required to be delivered more effectively in areas where they are available locally and inside the institution, reducing the need to transport inmates to other institutions or community settings to receive services. This approach focuses facility improvements and upgrades at locations where health care services can most effectively be provided and results in savings to capital and transportation costs. This approach is also aimed at reducing inmate-patient community treatment expenses. Furthermore, providing these services in hubs is more effective than attempting to include such services at all CDCR institutions.

The proposed project at WSP is one of several that are being funded through Assembly Bill (AB) 900, the Public Safety and Offender Rehabilitation Services Act of 2007 as amended by Chapter 22,

Statutes of 2010 and Senate Bill 1022 approved in June 2012. These acts authorize the design and construction of health care facilities, support space, and program space—and improvements to existing spaces—within existing prison facilities.

This IS prepared for the WSP improvements concludes that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record, that the improvements would have a significant effect on the environment. Thus, CDCR has determined that preparation of an ND is appropriate.

2.2 - Background

In April 2001, a class action lawsuit, *Plata v. Schwarzenegger*, was filed by a group of prison inmates against the State of California contending that CDCR provided inadequate medical care to prison inmates in violation of the Eighth Amendment (prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment) and the Fourteenth Amendment (providing the right to due process and equal protection) of the United States Constitution. In 2006, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California placed California's prison health care system in receivership in response to the April 2001 *Plata v. Schwarzenegger* lawsuit.

The main goal of the HCFIP is to sufficiently improve the infrastructure at various existing CDCR facilities, including WSP, to better ensure a timely, competent, and effective health care delivery system with appropriate health care diagnostics and treatment, medication distribution, and access to care for inmates. Implementation of the various HCFIP projects is intended to improve the overall delivery of adequate medical health care to the existing inmate population.

To this end, facility assessments have been performed at each of CDCR's adult institutions to determine the infrastructure deficiencies requiring improvement that exist within the prison system. The existing conditions and capabilities of the health care facilities were evaluated for conformance to the health care components established by the California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) division of CDCR. Based on the facility assessments, CDCR and CCHCS found that the existing health care facilities constructed between 1852 and the 1990s have some deficiencies. These deficiencies include lack of space or design to take advantage of advances in medical equipment used for various diagnostic, treatment, and medical technologies. These and other factors have resulted in the need for increased and/or modified health care space.

2.3 - Need for the WSP Project

As noted above, WSP is one of four existing institutions designated within the HCFIP as a Reception Center that provides Intermediate level of care based on an institution's ability to recruit and retain clinicians and its access to medical specialists and community medical centers of care. WSP currently houses Reception Center and General Population Custody Levels I and III adult male inmates.

WSP was opened in 1991 and was built according to the design standards in place at that time. Current code requirements and nationally accepted standards for health care spaces such as those developed by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs have more clearly defined health care space requirements. Improvements are therefore needed to more effectively provide an Intermediate level of inmate care services.

In August 2009 and again in September 2012, a health care facility assessment was performed at WSP to identify and document the existing conditions. The existing conditions and capabilities of the health care facilities were evaluated for conformance with the Medical Health Care Facility Components established by the CCHCS. The assessment included an inventory of existing health care spaces, including room size, availability of sinks, data and power connectivity, general features, and notable variations from generally accepted clinical standards. The type and number of inventoried spaces were compared with the CCHCS Health Care Components and related clinical utilization models to determine the infrastructure deficiencies that existed within the institution. Through this assessment process, existing facilities at WSP were determined either to meet the requirements and objectives of each health care component or as having some deficiencies.

Deficiencies were identified at WSP in the following seven health care components and their related objectives:

- Primary Care
- Specialty Care
- Medication Distribution
- Pharmacy
- Laboratory
- Reception Center Health Care Intake Screening
- Health Care Administration

The noted deficiencies of WSP's existing facilities have the potential to compromise both proper infectious control protocols and the confidentiality of inmate health care information and treatment. Specifically, WSP lacks sufficient outpatient and clinic support space to accommodate inmates' health care needs. As the volume and frequency of use for medical diagnostics, treatments, and technologies have increased and evolved, the staff at WSP have attempted to remedy their need for additional space by utilizing janitor closets and small supply rooms as temporary exam rooms. These temporary areas typically lack sanitation and infection controls such as sinks or the ability to separate waste from sterile supplies. Direct Observation Therapy, which involves a caregiver observing and verifying that medication has been taken correctly, was also not practiced or designed for when WSP was constructed.

To address the identified inadequacies, the proposed project includes eight sub-projects (described in detail in Section 2.5, Project Description). These sub-projects have been designed to remedy the health care deficiencies identified at WSP and would enable WSP to operate at an Intermediate level of care, supporting the CDCR health care system. Renovation of the existing facilities and the construction of new facilities would be in accordance with the CDCR Institution Support Space Standards for health care spaces. These Space Standards were developed in 2010 based on the nationally accepted standards of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, state and federal regulatory standards and codes, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Prevention Guidelines for Infection Control, the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, and the American Correctional Association.

2.4 - Project Location and Existing Conditions

WSP is located on approximately 270 of 630 acres owned by CDCR at 701 Scofield Avenue in Wasco, California. WSP is approximately three miles west of Wasco and 30 miles northwest of Bakersfield. WSP is surrounded by agricultural land, a small residential area, the Valley Rose Golf Course, and the Wasco Cemetery (northeast); two rural residences and agricultural land (west); agricultural land and a wastewater treatment plant (east); undeveloped and agricultural land (south); and agricultural land (north). Regional location and vicinity maps are presented in Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2, respectively.

WSP consists of approximately 840,000 square feet of buildings and approximately 2,100,000 square feet of total impervious surface area (inclusive of buildings). The majority of the project site is used as part of the existing facility or has been previously disturbed by facility-related activities.

2.5 - Project Description

The WSP project would remedy the identified deficiencies in the health care facility components through renovation of existing health care facilities and construction of new health care facilities. These improvements would provide critical facility infrastructure to support a timely, competent, and effective medical care delivery system at WSP. The proposed project is expected to reduce the need for escorted inmate-patient vehicle trips to offsite specialty care treatment, due to the installation of telemedicine capabilities to enable remote diagnostics and treatment, and additional specialty care exam rooms would be provided that would allow additional specialty care treatment to take place onsite.

The proposed project consists of eight sub-projects that include new buildings, renovations to existing buildings, and additions to existing buildings (Exhibit 3). New buildings and/or renovations are summarized below in Table 1. The proposed project would result in 16,362 square feet of building renovations, 23,497 square feet of new building space, and 7,050 square feet of additional impervious surfaces. Total exterior disturbed area would consist of 42,547 square feet or 0.98 acre (a combined

total of 23,497 square feet of new building space, 7,050 square feet of additional impervious surface, and 12,000 square feet of temporary construction staging area).

Total impervious surface added to the institution would be only 24,987 square feet because three of the proposed buildings would be constructed on existing impervious surfaces. Note that all square footage amounts provided in this document are approximate, based on conceptual plans.

Table 1: WSP New Building and Renovation Square Footage

Sub-project	Building Renovations	New Buildings or Additions	Additional Impervious Areas[1]
1) Facility A Primary Care Clinic Addition and Renovation	973	988	0
2) New Facility B Primary Care Clinic	0	3,780	1,400
3) New Facilities C and H Primary Care Clinic	0[2]	4,760	1,000
4) New Facility D Primary Care Clinic	0	4,113	3,000
5) New Medication Distribution Rooms	0	1,456	1,300
6) Central Health Services Renovation and Addition	5,744	1,872	0
7) Reception Center Health Care Processing Renovation	9,645	0	0
8) New Correctional Case Management and Health Care Administration Building	0	6,528	350
Total	16,362	23,497	7,050

Note:
[1] Accounts for additional parking, roadways, and walkways constructed outside of building footprints.
[2] The existing 1,009-square-foot building at the Sub-project 3 location would be demolished.
Source: Vanir Construction Management, 2013.

Each sub-project of the proposed project, as shown in Table 1, is discussed below.

2.5.1 - Sub-project 1: Facility A Primary Care Clinic Addition and Renovation

The existing Facility A Primary Care Clinic would undergo 973 square feet of renovations and 988 square feet of additions to provide three appropriately sized exam rooms, a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) alcove, and a lab draw alcove. All exam rooms would have sinks and be sized to meet treatment and equipment needs. Staff workstations, offices, and clinic support spaces, including soiled and clean utility rooms, would also be provided.

2.5.2 - Sub-project 2: New Facility B Primary Care Clinic

A new 3,780-square-foot Primary Care Clinic would be constructed in Facility B. The clinic would include four primary care exam rooms, a multi-use exam room with a lab draw, an LVN alcove, staff

workstations, clinic support areas, staff office, and clean and soiled utility rooms. All exam rooms would have sinks and be sized to meet treatment and equipment needs. An exterior concrete walkway totaling 1,400 square feet would be constructed adjacent to the building.

2.5.3 - Sub-project 3: New Facilities C and H Primary Care Clinic

A new 4,760-square-foot Primary Care Clinic would be constructed to serve the inmate-patients at both Facilities C and H. The existing 1,009-square-foot primary care clinic a Facility H would be demolished. The clinic would include six primary care exam rooms, a multi-purpose exam room with a lab draw, an LVN alcove, an LVN and Office Technician shared workstation, and clinic support spaces including clean and soiled utility rooms. All of the exam rooms would have hand sinks and be sized to meet treatment and equipment needs. A medication distribution room would be constructed to provide secure medication distribution and storage. The medication distribution room would include four medication distribution windows, sinks, countertops, and drinking fountains. An exterior concrete walkway totaling 1,000 square feet would be constructed adjacent to the building.

2.5.4 - Sub-project 4: New Facility D Primary Care Clinic

A new 4,133-square-foot Primary Care Clinic would be constructed in Facility D. The clinic would include six primary care exam rooms, a multi-purpose exam room with a lab draw, an LVN alcove, a Nursing and Office Technician shared workstation, and clinic support spaces including clean and soiled utility rooms. All exam rooms would have sinks and be sized to meet treatment and equipment needs. Administrative Segregation Unit (ASU) inmate-patient holding modules would also be included. An exterior concrete walkway totaling 3,000 square feet would be constructed adjacent to the building.

2.5.5 - Sub-project 5: New Medication Distribution Rooms

Four new Medication Distribution rooms, two at each facility, would be constructed at Facilities B and D to provide secured medication distribution space to serve the inmate-patient populations housed in these facilities. Each new Medication Distribution Room would consist of hardened construction to provide secure storage of medication and would include two medication distribution windows with overhead canopies, an injection room, countertops, sinks, a drinking fountain, and data connectivity. An exterior concrete walkway totaling 1,300 square feet for all four buildings would be constructed adjacent to each new Medication Distribution Room

Table 2 summarizes the proposed new Medication Distribution Rooms.

Table 2: Medication Distribution Room Square Footage Summary

Facility	Number of Buildings	Square Feet Each	Square Feet Total
B	2	364	728
D	2	364	728
Total	4	—	1,456
Source: Vanir Construction Management, 2013.			

2.5.6 - Sub-project 6: Central Health Services Renovation and Addition

The existing Central Health Services Building would undergo 5,744 square feet of renovations and 1,872 square feet of additions to provide appropriate triage and treatment area, clinical space, and pharmacy space. Clinical support spaces and soiled and clean utility rooms would be created for specialty and emergency care services as well as an appropriately sized physical therapy room and staff clinical support areas. A total of eight exam rooms—including four specialty exam rooms, one telemedicine specialty room, one optometry/ophthalmology room, one optical services room, and one physical therapy room—would be provided. The triage and treatment area would include one standard bay, one trauma bay, an emergency observation room, an office, an LVN and Office Technician shared workstation, clinic support spaces, and clean and soiled utility rooms that will be shared with the specialty clinic. Emergency vehicle access would also be provided.

The pharmacy would be expanded by consolidating the two existing spaces and the corridor that currently separates them. The pharmacy would include a dual prescription filling station and a controlled substance filling station with secure storage, an order entry/authorization/verification area, shipping/receiving/manifesting, transaction vestibule, and a pharmacist's office.

2.5.7 - Sub-project 7: Reception Center Health Care Processing Renovation

The existing Reception Center Health Care Processing area would undergo 9,645 square feet of renovations to accommodate comprehensive health screening (medical, mental health, and dental) of inmates newly received into the CDCR system. The Reception Center Health Care Processing renovation would provide space for the Certified Nursing Assistant/LVN initial assessment, RN assessment, medical exam rooms with a digital chest X-ray exam room, two lab draw rooms, staff offices, and a medication storage room. Dental spaces would include two fully functional dental operatories to provide screenings and treatment and three panorex rooms. The clinic would also include six mental health screening rooms and adequate inmate holding areas.

2.5.8 - Sub-project 8: New Correctional Case Management and Health Care Administration Building

A new 6,528-square-foot Correctional Case Management and Health Care Administration Building would be constructed for correctional counselor staff and health care administration staff. The

building will include workspaces and private offices. The building would also include staff restrooms, a break room, building support spaces, and workstations for administrative support staff. An exterior concrete walkway totaling 350 square feet would be constructed to provide a path of travel to and from the building.

2.5.9 - Additional Project Information

Staffing

The proposed project would remedy existing space deficiencies for the provision of health care services already provided at WSP. Accordingly, existing staff would utilize the new and renovated spaces. In addition, nine additional employees would be required to meet the staffing needs of the new buildings at WSP. Eight of the additional employees would serve as custody staff, while the ninth additional employee would be a stationary engineer to support the new buildings. Custody staff typically arrives earlier than their shift start time to relieve departing staff to ensure overlap.

Inmate Population

The proposed project at WSP does not provide additional inmate beds.

Visitation

Visitation procedures for the institution would remain the same as existing visitation protocols. Because the proposed project at WSP does not provide additional inmate beds, the project would not change visitation levels.

Parking

Additional staff and visitor parking are not required for the new facilities. Parking for construction workers would be provided at the existing WSP visitor parking area.

Lighting

New buildings would include exterior lighting fixtures mounted on building facades. Exterior lighting would illuminate all recesses formed by the building shape and be consistent with CDCR Design Criteria Guidelines. All lighting would be consistent with the existing lighting of the facility, and no new high-mast lighting would be installed.

Utilities

Utility service—including water, wastewater, stormwater, electricity, natural gas, telephone, and data communications—would be extended to new and renovated building spaces as necessary. Because the proposed project at WSP does not include additional inmate beds and would require the addition of only nine employees, additional water and wastewater needs would be minimal.

2.5.10 - Project Construction

CDCR anticipates the construction of the proposed project to begin in February of 2015. For the purposes of this IS/Proposed ND, it has been assumed that construction would take approximately 20 months and is scheduled to be completed in October of 2016. Primary phases of construction would include site mobilization and security, site preparation, and building construction. Construction of the sub-projects would be based on the sequencing of phasing requirements. Not all sub-projects would start construction at the same time. However, for the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that all project components would be constructed simultaneously.

Construction Equipment

Construction equipment types and numbers would vary, based on the phasing of project components and the sequencing of construction activities. The following construction equipment is anticipated for use in the site preparation and development of the project:

- Excavator
- Backhoe
- Jack hammer
- Front-end loader
- Tractor
- Dump truck
- Truck
- Grader
- Crane
- Fork lift
- Bobcat
- Air compressor
- Pneumatic lift
- Pneumatic tools

Earth-moving equipment, including backhoes, front-end loaders, and dump trucks, would be used during excavation for utilities and building foundations. Concrete trucks and pumpers would be onsite during concrete pours for foundations and slabs. Forklifts would be used during erection of walls and delivery of material from storage areas. Cranes would be operated for installation of precast panels, structural steel framing members, metal decking, and rooftop mechanical systems.

Construction Hours

Construction would occur between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. CDCR's contractor may request to work additional hours on weekdays and weekends with prior approval by the construction manager and institutional directors.

Site Demolition and Preparation

All proposed onsite buildings and additions would be located within WSP on previously disturbed and developed land. Building areas would be graded and soil engineered as necessary. A site-specific geotechnical engineering study would be completed for the project, and recommended soil preparation and construction methods would be incorporated into project plans and implemented onsite. These plans would include appropriate dust mitigation measures during site preparation and other construction-related activities.

Construction Staging Areas

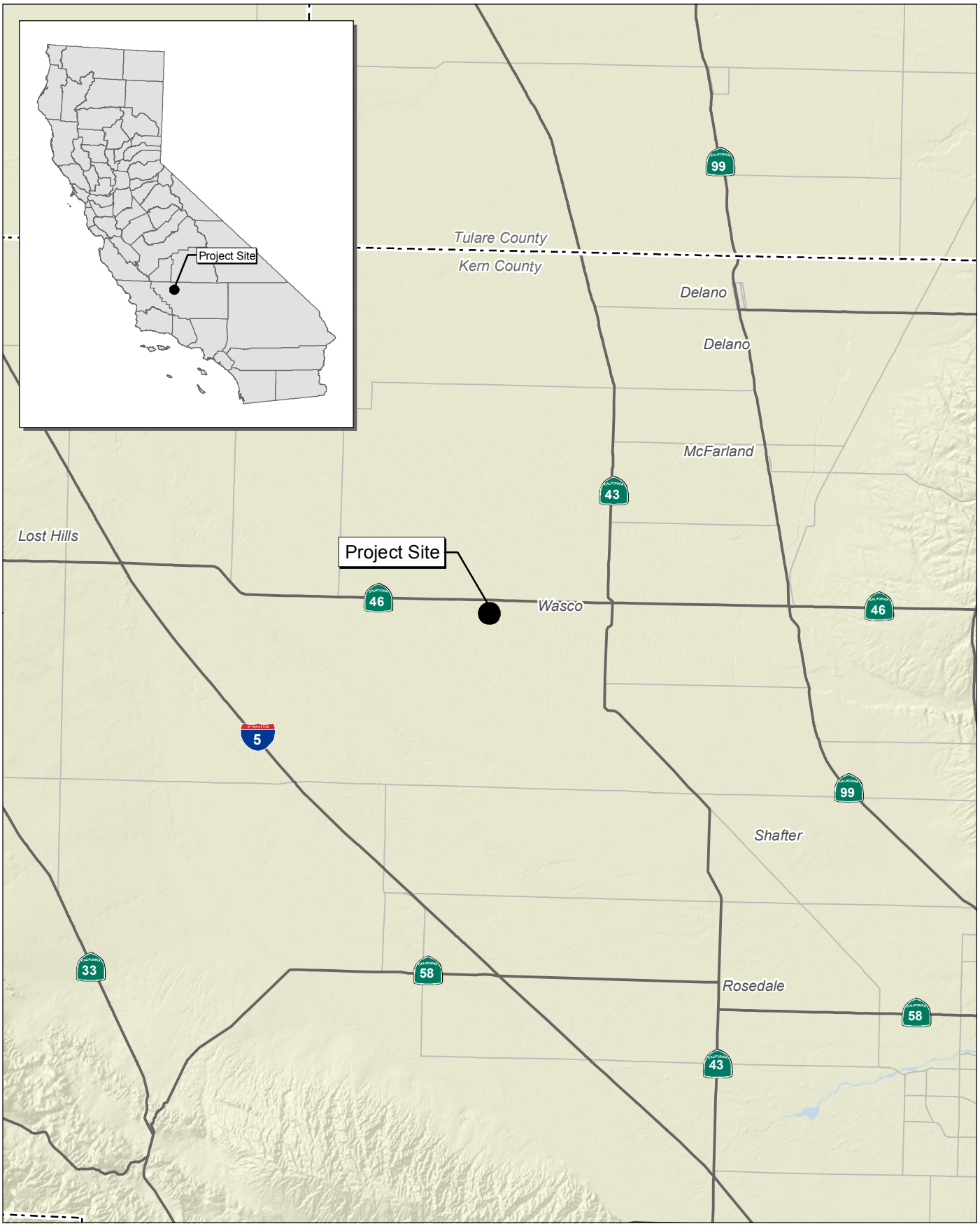
Construction staging for all renovations or improvements would occur within the secure perimeter fence adjacent to construction areas, and at a 12,000-square-foot area outside the secure perimeter. All staging areas would be located in previously disturbed and developed areas. The staging areas would be used for approximately 20 months during project construction. Staging areas would be used for construction vehicles, equipment, and material storage. Small amounts of fuels, lubricants, and solvents may be stored in these areas. Parking for construction workers would be provided at the existing WSP visitor parking area.

Construction Traffic Trips

Construction trips, including construction workers, soil hauling, demolition material removal, and building material delivery are estimated at an average of 219 one-way trips or approximately 110 vehicles traveling to and from the project site per day (Vanir Construction Management 2013; MBA 2013). This average assumes soil hauling and demolition would occur at the same time as building construction and is therefore a conservative estimate.

2.5.11 - Hazardous Materials

WSP was constructed in 1991, after many hazardous materials were banned from construction materials. Nonetheless, prior to project construction, an industrial hygienist would perform a complete hazardous materials assessment of structures to be disturbed by the proposed project. The assessments would include sampling and testing of any suspect materials or coating for asbestos and lead. Any friable materials (material likely to emit asbestos if disturbed) and noted hazardous materials within the project area would be identified for appropriate removal and disposal during construction. All required notifications, equipment, handling, disposal, and clearance testing related to hazardous material removal would be performed in accordance with applicable regulations to ensure worker safety and best management practices are established and followed.



Source: Census 2000 Data, The CaSIL, MBA GIS 2013.

NORTH

5 2.5 0 5

Miles

Michael Brandman Associates

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Exhibit 1
Regional Location Map

CDCR- HEALTH CARE FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
FOR THE WASCO STATE PRISON
INITIAL STUDY AND PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery.

NORTH

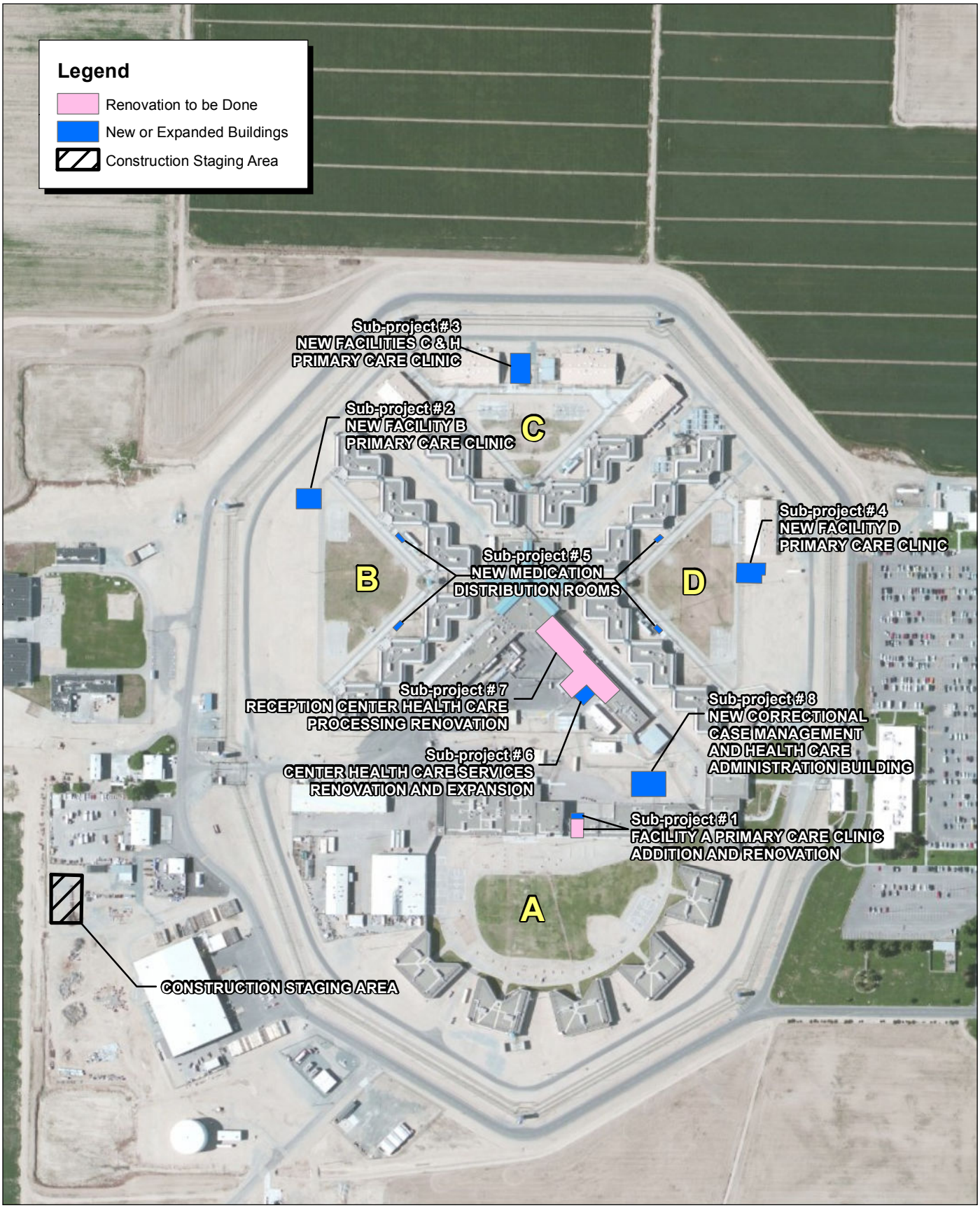
2,000 1,000 0 2,000

Feet

Michael Brandman Associates

11540025 • 11/2013 | 2_local_aerial.mxd

Exhibit 2
Local Vicinity Map
Aerial Base



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery. MBA GIS Data.
California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation - Wasco State Prison, 2013.

NORTH

300 150 0 300
Feet

Michael Brandman Associates

Exhibit 3
Site Plan

2.6 - Environmental Protection Design Features

The following section describes features of the proposed project that would reduce potential environmental impacts.

2.6.1 - Inadvertent Discovery Clauses

CDCR would require a standard inadvertent discovery clause in every construction contract to inform contractors that if a potentially significant cultural resource is encountered during subsurface earthwork, a buffer zone would be created around the find and further construction work would cease therein. Construction activities would be discontinued in the vicinity of the find in accordance with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15064.5[f], until a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist determines whether the discovery requires a significance evaluation in accordance with CCR Section 15064.5(a)(3). Potentially significant cultural resources consist of but are not limited to stone, bone, glass, ceramic, wood, or shell artifacts; or features including hearths, structural remains, or historic dumpsites that are more than 50 years old. In addition, the standard inadvertent discovery clause would require that if a potentially significant paleontological resource is encountered during subsurface earthwork, activities for the proposed project would cease until a qualified paleontologist determines whether the resource requires further study following Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.5.

2.6.2 - Geologic Stability

The proposed project's components have been designed to be consistent with the 2013 California Building Code (CBC), California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, Chapter 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, and as outlined in Appendix D of CDCR's Design Criteria Guidelines. The CBC requires extensive geotechnical analysis and engineering for grading, foundations, retaining walls, and other structures, including criteria for seismic design. Incorporation of standard CBC design and construction methods would ensure that risks resulting from seismic shaking would be minimized. In addition, a geotechnical engineering report would be prepared for the project prior to final design and preparation of grading plans. The geotechnical engineering report would provide site-specific recommendations regarding site preparation, earthwork, appropriate sources and types of fill, structural foundations, grading practices, erosion, slope stability during construction and operation, earthquake resistant design, and road and pavement areas. In accordance with CBC and Appendix D of CDCR's Design Criteria Guidelines, recommendations from the geotechnical engineering report would be incorporated into project plans and implemented during project construction.

2.6.3 - Water Quality and Erosion Protection

CDCR's Standard Design Document Guide Specification Section 31 25 00 defines standardized erosion and sedimentation controls that must be used during construction at CDCR institutions. In accordance with the specifications, CDCR and/or its contractors would be required to implement the following procedures during construction:

- Provide materials, services, and equipment for controlling pollutants in storm water runoff associated with construction activity.
- Prevent siltation of streams, rivers, lakes, and bays etc.; avert instream degradation due to turbidity and pollutant load; and prevent toxic materials from leaving the construction site.
- All areas disturbed by demolition, site preparation, or earthwork must be protected by erosion and sedimentation controls. Other areas requiring protection include access roads, staging areas, and other areas potentially disturbed by construction activities.
- Maintain silt fences, fiber rolls, straw mulch, straw bales, aggregate for stabilized construction entrances, and other erosion control features.
- Construct erosion control measures early in the project, but no later than the start of excavation or hard demolition.
- Confine soil disturbance, grading, and machinery access to the construction areas.
- Prevent wind erosion and air pollution by wetting down or applying other approved dust control measures to the work site.
- Provide additional erosion control measures such as check dams, temporary sediment basins, or other controls as necessary to prevent site runoff to prevent precipitation during construction from producing contaminated runoff.
- Comply with laws, rules, and regulations of the State of California, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prohibiting the pollution of lakes, oceans, bays, wetlands, streams, or river waters from the placing or dumping of refuse, construction materials, soils, or debris.

CDCR's Standard Design Document Guide Specifications also provide specific instructions on the placement, construction, and maintenance of silt fences, fiber rolls, straw bales, and stabilized construction entrances.

In addition, CDCR's Design and Construction Guidelines require that site design minimize the disruption to natural water flow and maximize the amount of natural infiltration on the site. Where appropriate, rainwater would be collected for stormwater control and non-potable water uses. Site grading would be designed for sheet flow of stormwater into the stormwater collection system at velocities that would not cause soil erosion and ensure no net increase of stormwater outfall would occur. Implementation of erosion and sedimentation controls during construction and incorporation of standard stormwater design requirements into the project design would ensure water quality is maintained, erosion is minimized during both construction and operation of the project, and no net increase in stormwater outfall would occur.

2.6.4 - Building Energy Efficiency

California Building Code Title 24, Part 6, establishes building energy efficiency standards for new construction (including requirements for new buildings, additions, alterations, nonresidential buildings, and repairs). Energy efficiency standards were established in 1978 in response to a legislative mandate to reduce California's energy consumption. The standards are updated periodically to allow consideration and possible incorporation of new energy efficiency technologies and methods. All project components would be required to implement Title 24 Energy Efficiency design measures.

Consistent with Executive Order B-18-12, sustainable measures and conservation features would be implemented in accordance with the Green Building Code, assuring minimal energy use and further minimizing direct and indirect GHG emissions from project operations.

SECTION 3: ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND DISCUSSION

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Health Care Facility Improvement Project for the Wasco State Prison
2. Lead Agency Name and Address	California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation 9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95827
3. Contact Person and Phone Number	Roxanne Henriquez, Senior Environmental Planner (916) 255-3010
4. Project Location	701 Scofield Road, Wasco, CA
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address	California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation 9838 Old Placerville Road, Suite B, Sacramento, CA 95827
6. General Plan Designation	Public Facilities
7. Zoning	P-F Public Facilities
8. Description of Project	See Section 2.5, Project Description
9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting	See Section 2.4, Project Location and Existing Conditions
10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement)	State Department of Finance State Public Works Board Joint Legislative Budget Committee

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected					
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.					
☐	Aesthetics	☐	Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☐	Air Quality
☐	Biological Resources	☐	Cultural Resources	☐	Geology/Soils
☐	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐	Hazards/Hazardous Materials	☐	Hydrology/Water Quality
☐	Land Use/Planning	☐	Mineral Resources	☐	Noise
☐	Population/Housing	☐	Public Services	☐	Recreation
☐	Transportation/Traffic	☐	Utilities/Services Systems	☐	Mandatory Findings of Significance
☐	None with Mitigation				

Environmental Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☒ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measure based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Nancy MacKenzie — 1-13-14

Signed *Date*

Nancy MacKenzie
Printed Name

Chief, Environmental Planning Section
Title

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Agency

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1. Aesthetics *Would the project:*				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic building within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

The following discussion is based on the site reconnaissance performed by MBA on September 11, 2013. High-resolution photographs were taken from representative viewpoints in the surrounding vicinity, and visual simulations were created to demonstrate the proposed project's building massing.

Visual Distance Zones

The following distance zones (foreground, middle ground, and background) are used to characterize the dominant visual character from each vantage point and describe views in terms that can be analyzed and compared. As discussed below, sensitivity of views modified from the existing environment is defined in order to establish thresholds for analysis of potential visual impacts resulting from the implementation of the proposed project.

Foreground Views. These views include elements that can be seen at a close distance and that dominate the entire view. Impacted views at this distance are generally considered potentially adverse when viewed by a sensitive viewer group, such as surrounding residents, workers, pedestrians, or regular motorists.

Middle Ground Views. These views include elements that can be seen at a middle distance and that partially dominate the view. Impacted views at this distance are generally considered potentially adverse when viewed by a sensitive viewer group.

Background Views. These views include elements that are seen at a long distance and typically do not dominate the view but are a part of the overall visual composition of the view. Impacted views at

this distance are generally considered not to be an adverse impact when viewed by a sensitive viewer group.

Regional Setting

WSP is located on 270 of 630 acres at 701 Scofield Road in Wasco, California (Exhibit 2). The City of Wasco is located within Kern County in Southern California (Exhibit 1). The project area is located in the southern San Joaquin Valley, west of the southern portion of the Sierra Nevada mountain range, north of the Tehachapi Mountains, and east of the Temblor Range, part of the California Coast Range. Visually, the region is dominated by views of flat land consisting of agricultural land and intermittent cities or developed areas. WSP is approximately three miles west of Wasco and 30 miles northwest of Bakersfield. State Route 46 (SR-46 or Paso Robles Highway) is located approximately 0.3 mile north of the project site. SR-43 is located approximately 3.8 miles east of the project site.

Visual Setting

WSP is located on state-owned land, surrounded by agricultural land, a small residential area, the Valley Rose Golf Course, and the Wasco Cemetery (northeast); two rural residences, and agricultural land (west); agricultural land and a wastewater treatment plant (east); undeveloped and agricultural land (south); and agricultural land (north).

Offsite views of the existing institution are generally seen from the adjacent roadways. WSP is located in middle ground views as seen from these locations. Foreground views consist of agricultural land and related activity and roadways. Background views consist of agricultural land and distant mountain ranges. The residential area and golf course to the northeast of WSP have limited views of the institution as a result of distance and intervening orchards and vegetation.

Sensitive Viewsheds

Sensitive viewsheds typically consist of those seen from public land use areas (recreation areas, parks, trails, etc.) or views of significant landscape features (e.g., mountain ranges). The nearest public land areas are the Valley Rose Golf Course, Wasco Cemetery, and John L. Prueitt Elementary School, located approximately 0.7 mile to the northeast, 1.1 miles northeast, and two miles to the east, respectively. Views of WSP from these locations are generally negligible because of the intervening distance and orchards. Viewsheds as seen from public use areas located within the surrounding mountain areas may include WSP. However, again, because of distance, such views would be negligible. Views of the mountain ranges surrounding the region are located at a significant distance (the nearest being approximately 15 miles to the southwest) and are not blocked by existing WSP buildings. Accordingly, no sensitive viewsheds are present.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

No impact. The proposed project at WSP would consist of eight new one-story buildings as well as interior renovations and/or minor additions at three existing WSP buildings. All construction would be consistent in character, design, and height with other existing buildings at WSP and would not exceed one story. While proposed buildings and building additions located at the exterior of the existing WSP institution would be visible from outside the secure perimeters, their consistency with surrounding buildings and relatively small size compared with the overall institution would result in a minimal change in existing views. Therefore, existing views of the surrounding mountains as seen from outside the facility would not change and the proposed project would not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista. No impact would occur.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic building within a state scenic highway?

No impact. There are no state-designated scenic highways near the project site. There are no officially designated state scenic highways in Kern County. The nearest eligible state scenic highways (not officially designated) are SR-14 and SR-58 in eastern Kern County located approximately 25 miles southeast of the project site. Accordingly, no impact would occur.

c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Less than significant impact. The existing visual character of the project vicinity consists of views of agricultural land, existing WSP institutional buildings, and background views of distant mountain ranges. WSP significantly influences the character of the immediate site vicinity.

Locations from which photographs of WSP were taken are illustrated in Exhibit 4a. The photographs are provided in Exhibit 4b through Exhibit 4d, which include block massing examples of several of the proposed facilities. Exhibit 4b provides views of the Facility A Primary Care Clinic addition (Sub-project 1) and the new Facility C and H Primary Care Clinic (Sub-project 3). Exhibit 4c provides views of the proposed new Facility D Primary Care Clinic building (Sub-project 4). While a photograph is not provided, the new Facility B Primary Care Clinic building (Sub-project 2) would be similar in size and location within Facility B to the Facility D Primary Care Clinic (Sub-project 4). Exhibit 4c also provides views of the proposed Central Health Services addition (Sub-project 6). Exhibit 4d provides views of the New Correctional Case Management and Health Care Administration Building (Sub-project 8). As indicated in the representative site photographs, the proposed buildings and additions would be consistent with the existing building massing at WSP.

Views of proposed improvements would be available from a limited number of locations, because several of the proposed buildings or building additions are located within interior areas of WSP and views would be blocked by existing institution buildings. Furthermore, proposed improvements at WSP would be relatively minor additions to the existing large institution and, because of the distance from nearby viewpoints, would represent minimal changes in the existing visual setting. Therefore, the proposed project would not represent a significant visual change as viewed from nearby residential areas, roadways, or public open space. During construction, temporary staging areas would occur within the institution, and large equipment such as cranes may be used. Views of construction-related activity would be limited to the directly surrounding area and would be temporary. Accordingly, no substantial change would occur to the visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. Impacts would be less than significant.

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Less than significant impact. The WSP facilities are currently well-lit with onsite high-mast and building-mounted lighting.

The proposed project would include exterior wall- and/or roof-mounted security lighting associated with the new and renovated structures. No new large sources of lighting (e.g., high-mast lighting) would be installed as part of the project. Existing high-mast lighting would not be altered. Newly added exterior wall and/or roof-mounted lighting would be consistent with CDCR Design Criteria Guidelines to minimize spillover light into surrounding properties. Furthermore, CDCR's Design Criteria Guidelines require a lighting plan for each institution to ensure light spillover is limited.

Given the existing lighting, the additional lighting associated with the proposed project would not increase the intensity of illumination in and around WSP and, therefore, would not be expected to substantially affect nighttime views.

The proposed project does not include any building materials that would be expected to produce substantial amounts of glare. Given the distance to nearby residential development and intervening buildings, no offsite impacts would be expected if glare were to occur. Therefore, impacts related to lighting and glare would be less than significant.

Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery.

NORTH

250 125 0 250

Feet

Michael Brandman Associates

11540025 • 11/2013 | 4a_photo_vantage_points.mxd

Exhibit 4a
Photograph Vantage Points

Photograph 1: View (facing south) of where the new Facility A Primary Care Clinic addition (Sub-project 1) is to be developed, located on the north side of Facility A.

Photograph 2: View (facing southeast) of where the new Facility C and H Primary Care Clinic (Sub-project 3) is to be developed, adjacent to the north side of Facility C.

Source: MBA, 2013.

Michael Brandman Associates

Exhibit 4b
Site Photographs

Photograph 3: View (facing northwest) of where the new Facility D Primary Care Clinic building (Sub-project 4) is to be developed, located on the east side of Facility D.

Photograph 4: View (facing east) of where the Central Health Services (CHS) addition (Sub-project 6) is to be developed, located south of the existing CHS building.

Source: MBA, 2013.

Michael Brandman Associates

Exhibit 4c
Site Photographs

Photograph 5: View (facing east) of where the new Correctional Case Management and Health Care Administration Building (Sub-project 8) is to be developed, located on the north side of Facility A.

Source: MBA, 2013.

Michael Brandman Associates

Exhibit 4d
Site Photographs

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
2. Agriculture and Forestry Resources *In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:*				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Agricultural production is a billion dollar industry in Kern County with 2012 crop production values estimated at $6.2 billion (Kern County 2013). The top five commodities during 2012 were grapes, almonds, milk, citrus, and pistachios (Kern County 2013). According to the Farmland and Mapping Monitoring Program's (FMMP's) 2010 inventory (the most recent available), approximately 2,741,475 acres of agricultural/grazing land are located in Kern County (FMMP 2011). While there are no active agricultural operations within WSP's secure perimeter, areas directly surrounding WSP are actively farmed by CDCR.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

No impact. Based on a review of maps prepared pursuant to the FMMP of the California Department of Conservation, the project site does not contain any land designated as "Prime Farmland," "Unique Farmland," or "Farmland of Statewide Importance." WSP is designated by the FMMP as Urban and Built-Up Land (FMMP 2011). While lands surrounding WSP are designated as "Prime Farmland" and "Unique Farmland," the proposed project would be located entirely within WSP secure perimeter and would not impact any undisturbed lands. Therefore, no impact to Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance would occur.

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No impact. No Williamson Act contract land exists on the project site. The Williamson Act map for central Kern County designates the project site as Urban and Built-up Land. WSP is designated as Public Facilities on the Wasco General Plan Land Use Map and is zoned P-F Public Facilities on the City of Wasco Zoning Map. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any agricultural zoning. The proposed project is consistent with land use and zoning designations and is not expected to encourage the non-renewal or cancellation of other Williamson Act contract lands or conflict with agricultural zoning. No impact would occur.

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

No impact. PRC Section 12220(g) defines forest land as ". . . land that can support 10 percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits." Additionally, timberland is defined by PRC Section 4526 as land ". . . which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of any commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products." The project site consists of previously disturbed lands and non-native landscaping within a state correctional institution. Therefore, no forest land or timberland activity could be supported on the project site or in the vicinity of the project site. These conditions preclude the possibility of changes to forest land or timberland zoning resulting from the proposed project. For these reasons, no impact would occur.

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No impact. See response to discussion 2 c), above. No forest land or timberland exists on the project site or in the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, no impact would occur.

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No impact. Indirect impacts on agricultural lands can occur under two types of conditions: (1) development (urban, residential) can place pressure on adjacent agricultural lands to convert to non-agricultural uses, or (2) land uses (urban, residential) adjacent to existing agricultural lands can create conflicts between the two types of uses, which can, in turn, lead to the abandonment of agricultural uses in the area of conflict.

Improvements to WSP would take place within the existing institutional boundaries and would only function to serve WSP inmates and employees. The proposed land use is consistent with the Kern County General Plan land use and zoning designations. No farmland or forest land exists within WSP's secure perimeter. Moreover, the proposed project does not include components that would result in changes to surrounding land uses. Lands used by CDCR for agricultural purposes surrounding WSP would not be affected by the proposed project. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not result in conversion of farmland or forest land, and there are no project elements that would otherwise affect agricultural or forest lands. No impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
3. Air Quality *Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:*				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

The EPA sets National Ambient Air Quality Standards, also known as federal standards. There are federal standards for six common air pollutants, called criteria air pollutants, which were identified resulting from provisions of the Clean Air Act of 1970. The six criteria pollutants are ozone, particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$), nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide (CO), lead, and sulfur dioxide. The federal standards were set to protect public health, including that of sensitive individuals. Thus, the standards continue to change as more medical research is available regarding the health effects of the criteria pollutants.

The California Air Resources Board (ARB), a component of the California Environmental Protection Agency, administers California's ambient air quality standards for the 10 air pollutants designated in the California Clean Air Act. The 10 state air pollutants consist of the six federal criteria pollutants listed above, plus visibility reducing particulates, hydrogen sulfide, sulfates, and vinyl chloride. Health effects of the criteria pollutants may be found at the ARB's website (ARB 2012).

The project is within Kern County, west of Wasco, which is part of the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB) and under the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

(SJVAPCD). The SJVAPCD is the local regional jurisdictional entity charged with attainment planning, rule making, rule enforcement, and monitoring under Federal and State Clean Air Acts and Clean Air Act Amendments. The SJVAB contains most of California's San Joaquin Valley, including western Kern County, and Tulare, Kings, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin Counties. The SJVAB is designated as non-attainment for the state and federal ozone and $PM_{2.5}$ standards, as wells as the state PM_{10} standard (SJVAPCD 2013). Therefore, the pollutants of concern for the project area are primarily ozone and particulate matter.

The SJVAB has had chronic non-attainment of federal and state clean air standards for ozone and particulate matter that are due to a combination of topography and climate. The San Joaquin Valley is hemmed in on three sides by mountain ranges, with prevailing winds carrying pollutants and pollutant precursors from urbanized areas to the north (and in turn contributing pollutants and precursors to downwind air basins). The Mediterranean climate of this region, with a high number of sunny days and little or no measurable precipitation for several months of the year, fosters photochemical reactions in the atmosphere, creating ozone and particulate matter.

Elevated levels of ozone, PM, and CO are seasonal in nature. Significant ozone formation generally requires an adequate amount of ozone precursors in the atmosphere and several hours in a stable atmosphere with strong sunlight. Ozone precursors are primarily oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) and reactive organic gases (ROG). The conditions for ozone formation are prevalent during the summer when thermal inversions are most likely to occur. PM levels tend to be highest during the winter months when the meteorological conditions favor the accumulation of localized pollutants. This occurs when relatively low inversion levels trap pollutants near the ground and concentrate the pollution. In addition, CO concentrations are higher in winter.

Existing local air quality, historical trends, and projections of air quality are best evaluated by reviewing relevant air pollutant concentrations near the project area. Table 3 summarizes air monitoring data from stations operated by the District. The nearest station that measures 1-hour and 8-hour ozone, and 1-hour NO_2 is the Shafter-Walker Street ambient air monitoring station (Shafter Station) located approximately 9.9 miles southeast of the project. The nearest station that measures PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ is located in the City of Bakersfield (Bakersfield-5558 California Avenue), over 15 miles southeast of the project site. The District does not operate any CO monitoring stations in Kern County because the Air Basin is in attainment of all CO standards. As shown in Table 3, ambient air pollution concentrations in the project area regularly exceeded the state 1-hour ozone standard and the state and federal 8-hour standard in the last three years. In the same timeframe, the project area also exceeds the state 24-hour PM_{10} and federal $PM_{2.5}$ standards. However, the project area did not exceed the federal or state CO and NO_2 standards, nor did the project area exceed the federal PM_{10} standard.

Table 3: Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Summary

Air Pollutant	Averaging Time	Measurement/Standard	Year		
			2010	2011	2012
Ozone[a]	1 Hour	Max 1 hour measurement (ppm)	0.106	0.097	0.103
		Days above CAAQS of 0.09 ppm	8	1	5
	8 Hour	Max 8 hour measurement (ppm)[c]	0.095	0.087	0.090
		Days above CAAQS of 0.07 ppm	41	43	64
		Days above NAAQS of 0.075 ppm	22	18	30
Particulate matter (PM_{10}) [b]	24 Hour	State Annual Average ($\mu g/m^3$)[d]	32.6	44.2	41.4
		Max 24 hour measurement ($\mu g/m^3$)[c]	238.0	154.0	125.8
		Est. days above CAAQS of 50 $\mu g/m^3$	47.1	116.4	89.4
		Est. Days above NAAQS of 150 $\mu g/m^3$	0	0	0
Fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) [b]	24 Hour	Annual Average ($\mu g/m3$)[d]	14.1	16.2	13.0
		Max 24 hour measurement ($\mu g/m^3$)[d]	92.2	80.3	86.5
		Measured days above NAAQS of 35 $\mu g/m^3$	26	30	22
Carbon monoxide (CO)	8 Hour	Max 8 hour measurement (ppm)[c]	1.46	*	*
		Days above CAAQS standard of 9.0 ppm	0	0	0
		Days above NAAQS Standard of 9 ppm	0	0	0
Nitrogen dioxide (NO_2)[a]	Annual	Annual Average (ppm)	0.074	0.054	0.052
	1 Hour	Max 1 hour measurement (ppm)	0.048	0.044	0.045
		Days above CAAQS standard of 0.18 ppm	0	0	0

Abbreviations:
ppm = parts per million $\mu g/m^3$ = micrograms per cubic meter
* = Insufficient/No data Max = maximum Est. = Estimated
CAAQS = California ambient air quality standards
NAAQS = National ambient air quality standards
[a] Shafter-Walker Street Monitoring Station
[b] Bakersfield-5558 California Avenue Monitoring Station
[c] From the California Measurement
[d] Federal Annual Average
Source: ARB 2013a, 2013b.

Sensitive Receptors

Certain populations, such as children, the elderly, and persons with preexisting respiratory or cardiovascular illness, are particularly sensitive to the health impacts of air pollution. For purposes of CEQA, the SJVAPCD considers residences, schools, daycare centers, playgrounds, and medical facilities to be sensitive receptors. The proposed project has the potential to impact the existing

sensitive inmate population and staff at WSP. Some of the existing inmates may be considered sensitive receptors because they are long-term residents with pre-existing illnesses.

Rural residences are located 0.40 mile to the west, 0.70 mile to the northwest, and 0.70 mile to the northeast.

SJVAPCD Thresholds of Significance

While the final determination of whether or not a project has a significant effect is within the purview of the lead agency pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(b), SJVAPCD recommends that its air pollution thresholds be used to determine the significance of project emissions. The criteria pollutant thresholds and various assessment recommendations are contained in the District's Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts (GAMAQI) and are discussed under the CEQA checklist questions below.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Less than significant impact. To meet federal Clean Air Act requirements, air districts must prepare attainment plans for pollutants for which they are in non-attainment. The SJVAPCD's most recent air quality plans are the 2007 PM_{10} Maintenance Plan, the 2008 $PM_{2.5}$ Plan, the 2012 $PM_{2.5}$ Plan, and the 2007 Ozone Plan. These plans establish a comprehensive air pollution control program leading to the attainment of state and federal air quality standards in the SJVAB. The GAMAQI does not provide specific guidance on analyzing conformity with the District's Air Quality Plans (AQPs). Therefore, the following criteria were used for determining project consistency with the current AQPs:

1. Would the project result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations or cause or contribute to new violations, or delay timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emission reductions specified in the AQPs? This measure is determined by comparison to the regional and localized thresholds identified by the SJVAPCD for Regional and Local Air Pollutants.
2. Would the project conform to the assumptions in the AQPs?
3. Would the project comply with applicable control measures in the AQPs?

Project's Contribution to Air Quality Violations

A measure of determining if the project is inconsistent with the AQPs is if the project would result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations or cause or contribute to new violations, or delay timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emission reductions

specified in the AQPs. As shown in discussion 3 b), neither construction nor operation of the project would cause a Fugitive Dust or CO violation. As shown in discussion 3 c), neither construction nor operation of the project would exceed SJVAPCD thresholds of significance.

The project would also be consistent with the applicable control measures from the attainment plans through compliance with applicable SJVAPCD rules and regulations. Specifically, the project is required to comply with the following applicable SJVAPCD rules and regulations:

- Rule 4002 – National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (related to asbestos-containing materials).
- Rule 4102 – Nuisance. The purpose of this rule is to protect the health and safety of the public, and applies to any source operation that emits or may emit air contaminants or other materials.
- Rule 4601 – Architectural Coatings. The purpose of this rule is to limit ROG emissions from architectural coatings. Emissions are reduced by limits on ROG content and providing requirements on coatings storage, cleanup, and labeling.
- Rule 4641 – Cutback, Slow Cure, and Emulsified Asphalt, Paving and Maintenance Operations. The purpose of this rule is to limit ROG emissions from asphalt paving and maintenance operations. If asphalt paving will be used, then the paving operations will be subject to Rule 4641.
- Regulation VIII – Fugitive PM10 Prohibitions. Rules 8011-8081 are designed to reduce PM10 emissions (predominantly dust/dirt) generated by human activity, including construction and demolition activities, road construction, bulk materials storage, paved and unpaved roads, carryout and trackout, etc.
- Rule 9510 – Indirect Source Review. This rule reduces the impact of NOx and PM10 emissions from growth on the Air Basin. The rule places application and emission reduction requirements on development projects meeting applicability criteria in order to reduce emissions through onsite mitigation, offsite District-administered projects, or a combination of the two. An Air Impact Assessment application must be submitted to begin rule compliance because the size of the overall project meets the rule applicability threshold of 10,000 square feet of government space or 9,000 square feet of "unidentified" space. However, as shown in Section 3.3, Air Quality, discussion 3 c) below, the project's construction and operational emissions are less than two tons per year each for NO_x and PM_{10}, thereby meeting the exemption threshold contained in Rule 9510 (Indirect Source Review). Therefore, the project is exempt from the emissions reductions requirements of SJVAPCD Rule 9510, which reduces the impact of NO_x and PM_{10} emissions from growth in the Air Basin.

Therefore, the project complies with this criterion.

Consistency with Assumptions in AQPs

The primary way of determining consistency with the AQP's assumptions is determining consistency with the applicable General Plan to ensure that the project's population density and land use are consistent with the growth assumptions used in the AQPs for the air basin.

As required by California law, city and county General Plans contain a Land Use Element that details the types and quantities of land uses that the city or county estimates will need for future growth, and that designates locations for land uses to regulate growth. The applicable General Plan for the project is the City of Wasco General Plan, which was adopted in 2002, prior to the SJVAPCD's adoption of the applicable AQPs. Therefore, if the project's population growth and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) are consistent with the General Plan, then the project is consistent with the growth assumptions used in the applicable AQPs. The proposed project is consistent with the current general plan, and will not require a General Plan Amendment. The proposed project is an improvement project to an existing facility. The proposed project would be consistent with the allowable uses and development intensity of the land use designation and zoning. Furthermore, the project is not anticipated to result in an increase in inmate population or visitation levels and would add only nine additional staff members. The proposed project is expected to reduce the need for escorted inmate-patient vehicle trips to offsite specialty care treatment. Therefore, the project would not cause substantial increases in population, vehicle trips, or VMT that would conflict with the applicable AQPs and would be consistent with the assumptions in the AQPs. Therefore, the project complies with this criterion.

Control Measures

The AQPs contains a number of control measures, including the rules outlined by the SJVAPCD. The control measures in the AQPs are enforceable requirements. The project would be required to comply with all of the SJVAPCD's applicable rules and regulations. Therefore, the project complies with this criterion.

Summary

The proposed project would not contribute to air quality violations, would be consistent with assumptions in applicable AQPs, and would be required to comply with SJVAPCD's applicable control measures. As such, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable AQPs. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Less than significant impact. This impact relates to localized criteria pollutant impacts. Potential localized impacts would be exceedances of State or federal standards for PM_{10} or CO. Particulate matter emissions (primarily PM_{10}) are of concern during construction because of the potential to emit fugitive dust during earth-disturbing activities. CO emissions are of concern during project operation

because operational CO hotspots are related to increases in on-road vehicle congestion. Each is discussed separately below.

Construction Fugitive Dust

Dust emissions from grading and trenching can create nuisances and localized health impacts related to fugitive dust. According to the GAMAQI, implementation of all control measures indicated in Tables 6-2 and 6-3 of the GAMAQI would reduce construction-generated PM_{10} emissions to a less than significant level. The GAMAQI was prepared in 2002, after which, the SJVAPCD adopted the control measures indicated in Tables 6-2 and 6-3 as components of Regulation VIII, Fugitive PM_{10} Prohibitions. The project is required to comply with Regulation VIII. Therefore, the project would implement the control measures indicated in Tables 6-2 and 6-3 of the GAMAQI through regulatory compliance and would generate a less than significant impact for fugitive dust generation during project construction**.**

Operational CO Hotspot

Localized high levels of CO (CO hotspots) are associated with traffic congestion and idling or slow moving vehicles. The SJVAPCD has established that if the project does not meet either of the following criteria at intersections affected by the proposed project, the project can be said to have no potential to create a violation of the CO standard:

- A traffic study for the project indicates that the Level of Service (LOS) on one or more streets or at one or more intersections in the project vicinity will be reduced to LOS E or F; or
- A traffic study indicates that the project will substantially worsen an already existing LOS F on one or more streets or at one or more intersections in the project vicinity.

As discussed in Section 3.16, Transportation/Traffic, construction traffic would not occur during peak traffic hours and construction traffic impacts to existing LOS at affected intersections would be less than significant. As stated in the project description, the project would not result in an increase in visitation levels because no new inmate beds would be added. Inmate or delivery trips associated with the institution would not increase. Eight of the nine additional employees would serve as custody staff and would be distributed between two separate shifts: 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., thereby requiring no work commute trips during peak traffic hours. Custody staff make only two trips per day, one trip to and one trip from WSP. The addition of traffic trips from the remaining additional employee, who would work during a standard daytime shift, and could make up to four trips per day (two trips to and two trips from WSP), would be minimal compared with the existing number of employee traffic trips to and from WSP. Furthermore, the project would be expected to result in a reduction of existing vehicle trips generated by WSP, as the increased capacity of onsite medical services would alleviate the existing need for transportation between WSP and offsite medical service locations. Therefore, operation of the project would result in a minimal

increase in employee vehicle trips and a reduction of existing inmate transport trips, and it is not anticipated to result in a deterioration of an intersection's LOS to E or F, or contribute additional traffic to an intersection that already operates at LOS of E or F. As such, the project would not meet either screening criteria and no additional analysis is needed. Impacts related to operational CO hotspots would be less than significant.

Conclusion

In summary, the project would not emit a significant quantity of fugitive dust and would not significantly contribute to a CO hotspot. Therefore, the project would not contribute substantially to an existing or projected localized air quality violation. Impacts would be less than significant.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

Less than significant impact. This impact is related to regional criteria pollutant impacts. The non-attainment regional pollutants of concern are ozone, $PM_{10,}$ and $PM_{2.5}$. Ozone is not emitted directly into the air, but is a regional pollutant formed by a photochemical reaction in the atmosphere. Ozone precursors, ROG and NO_x, react in the atmosphere in the presence of sunlight to form ozone. Therefore, the SJVAPCD does not have a recommended ozone threshold, but it does have thresholds of significance for ROG and NO_x. According to the GAMAQI, the SJVAPCD based the ozone precursor thresholds' "significant contribution" definition on the California Clean Air Act's offset requirements for ROG and NO_x. The ROG and NO_x offset thresholds are described in SJVAPCD Rule 2201 (New and Modified Stationary Source Review). Therefore, this impact section includes analysis of, and significance determinations for, those pollutants.

Thresholds

The SJVAPCD's GAMAQI does not have quantitative thresholds for construction emissions. Therefore, the numeric thresholds used for assessing the significance of project operations is used to assess significance of construction emissions in this IS/Proposed ND.

The GAMAQI has operational thresholds for ROG and NO_x. Since publication of the GAMAQI in 2002, the SJVAPCD has recommended use of a PM_{10} threshold of 15 tons per year for project operations. Because the SJVAB is in non-attainment for $PM_{2.5}$, the threshold for $PM_{2.5}$ for this project will be nine tons per year. The justification for this number is that $PM_{2.5}$ is in non-attainment and should have a more stringent threshold than PM_{10} to provide a worst-case assessment. The annual standard for PM_{10} is 20 $\mu g/m^3$ and the annual standard for $PM_{2.5}$ is 12 $\mu g/m^3$. Therefore, the ratio of PM_{10} to $PM_{2.5}$ results in a threshold for $PM_{2.5}$ of nine tons per year.

The annual significance thresholds to be used for the project for operational and construction emissions are as follows:

- 10 tons per year ROG
- 10 tons per year NO_x
- 15 tons per year PM_{10}
- 9 tons per year $PM_{2.5}$

Construction Emissions

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would temporarily generate ROG, NO_x, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$. The primary source of construction-related ROG and NO_x emissions is gasoline and diesel powered, heavy-duty mobile construction equipment. Primary sources of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ emissions are generally clearing and demolition activities, grading operations, construction vehicle traffic on unpaved ground, and wind blowing over exposed surfaces.

The California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) version 2013.2.2 was used to quantify project-generated construction emissions. The analysis methodology, assumptions and the CalEEMod output are provided in Appendix A. Renovations were not included in these construction calculations, as renovations would not require heavy duty equipment usage or large volume soils movement, which are the main sources of air pollutant emissions during construction. Construction activities would consist of demolition, site preparation, grading, building construction and architectural coating. The annual emissions for the project are shown in Table 4. As shown in Table 4, emissions of ROG, NO_x, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ would not exceed the District's significance thresholds during the proposed project construction phases. Construction criteria pollutant impacts would be less than significant.

Table 4: Construction Air Pollutant Annual Emissions

Source of Emissions (year)	Emissions (tons per year)			
	ROG	**NO_x**	**PM_{10}**	**$PM_{2.5}$**
Construction (2015)	0.08	0.66	0.06	0.04
Construction (2016)	0.20	0.31	0.03	0.02
SJVAPCD Threshold	**10**	**10**	**15**	**9**
Significant impact?	No	No	No	No

Notes:
ROG = reactive organic gases NO_x = nitrogen oxides
PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than 0.1 µg and less than 2.5 µg, respectively
Source of emissions: CalEEMod Output (Appendix A).

Operational Emissions

Operational emissions occur over the lifetime of the project and are from two main sources: area sources (e.g., boilers, water heaters) and mobile sources (e.g., motor vehicles). CalEEMod version 2013.2.2 was used to quantify project-generated operational emissions. The analysis methodology, assumptions and the CalEEMod output are provided in Appendix A. Table 5 summarizes annual operational emissions. As shown in the table, operation of the new and renovated facilities would produce substantially fewer emissions than the SJVAPCD thresholds. Operational criteria pollutant impacts would be less than significant.

Table 5: Operational Air Pollutant Annual Emissions

Source of Emissions	Emissions (tons per year)			
	ROG	NO_x	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Area	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
Energy	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.00
Mobile	0.32	1.10	0.34	0.10
Maximum Annual Emissions	**0.44**	**1.15**	**0.34**	**0.10**
SJVAPCD Threshold	10	10	15	9
Significant impact?	No	No	No	No

Notes:
ROG = reactive organic gases NO_x = nitrogen oxides
PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than 0.1 µg and less than 2.5 µg, respectively
* Numbers in table may differ from CalEEMod Output due to rounding.
Source of emissions: CalEEMod Output (Appendix A).

Conclusion

In summary, the project would not exceed the Air District's significance thresholds during construction or operations. Therefore, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment. Impacts would be less than significant.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less than significant impact. This discussion addresses whether the project would expose sensitive receptors to asbestos, construction-generated fugitive dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$), construction-generated diesel particulate matter (DPM), operational related toxic air contaminants (TACs), or operational CO hotspots.

The SJVAPCD considers a sensitive receptor to be any land use or facility that houses or attracts children, the elderly, people with illnesses, or others who are especially sensitive to the effects of air

pollutants. Sensitive receptor locations include schools, parks, and playgrounds, day care centers, nursing homes, hospitals, and residential dwellings units. The proposed project may be considered to have a potential impact on a sensitive receptor because some of the existing inmates at WSP are long-term residents with pre-existing illnesses. Sensitive receptors also exist near the project site including nearby residences (the closest of which is approximately 0.4 mile from the nearest sub-project).

Asbestos

Asbestos-Containing Materials

Asbestos is a fibrous mineral which is both naturally occurring in ultramafic rock (a rock type commonly found in California), and used as a processed component of building materials. Because asbestos has been proven to cause a number of disabling and fatal diseases, such as asbestosis and lung cancer, it is strictly regulated either based on its natural widespread occurrence, or in its use as a building material. In the initial Asbestos National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants rule promulgated in 1973, a distinction was made between building materials that would readily release asbestos fibers when damaged or disturbed (friable) and those materials that were unlikely to result in significant fiber release (non-friable). The EPA has since determined that, severely damaged, otherwise non-friable materials can release significant amounts of asbestos fibers. Asbestos has been banned from many building materials under the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Consumer Product Safety Act. However, most uses of asbestos for building material are not banned. Therefore, the potential source of asbestos exposure for the project is the renovation activity of the existing structures.

Because the proposed project would involve renovation activity, various regulatory requirements may apply, including the requirements stipulated in the National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (40 CFR 61, Subpart M - asbestos) as well as Air District Rule 1403 (Asbestos Emissions from Demolition/Renovation Activities). These requirements include but are not limited to (1) notification to the SJVAPCD, (2) an asbestos survey conducted by a Certified Asbestos Inspector, and (3) applicable removal and disposal requirements of identified asbestos-containing materials. Compliance with SJVAPCD, federal, and state regulations reduces the potential of asbestos-containing material exposure to a less than significant impact.

Naturally Occurring Asbestos

The California Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology (DMG) has a published guide for generally identifying areas that are likely to contain naturally occurring asbestos (NOA). The DMG map indicates that there were two former asbestos prospect sites and a small area of ultramafic rock within Kern County. However, the project site is approximately 50 miles from the nearest area likely to contain NOA. Therefore, disturbance of NOA during project construction is not a concern for the project.

Construction: Fugitive Dust

Dust emissions from grading, trenching, or land clearing can create nuisances and localized health impacts related to fugitive dust. As shown in discussion 3 b) and c) above, the project would not exceed the threshold of significance for construction-generated PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ because the appropriate dust control measures would be implemented during each phase of construction, as required by SJVAPCD Regulation VIII. Therefore, the project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial PM_{10} or $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations from construction activities.

Construction: Diesel Particulate Matter

Studies have demonstrated that DPM from diesel-fueled engines is a human carcinogen and that chronic (long-term) inhalation exposure to DPM poses a chronic health risk. The project would generate diesel exhaust, a source of DPM, during project construction. Onsite emissions of DPM would occur during construction from the operation of heavy-duty construction equipment and from vendor trucks that operate on the project site.

Construction phase risks would be considered acute health risks as opposed to cancer risks, which are long-term. The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment has yet to define acute risk factors for diesel particulates that would allow the calculation of a hazards risk index. Thus, evaluation of this impact would be speculative and no further analysis is necessary.

Operation: Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs)

The District's GAMAQI states that residences, schools, daycare centers, playgrounds and medical facilities are considered sensitive receptor land uses. The GAMAQI states that any project with the potential to expose sensitive receptors (including residential areas) or the general public to substantial levels of toxic air contaminants would be deemed to have a potentially significant impact. This applies to receptors proposed to be located near existing sources of toxic air contaminants, as well as sources of toxic air contaminants proposed to be located near existing receptors. As previously stated, some of the existing inmates may be considered sensitive receptors because they are long-term residents with pre-existing illnesses. Therefore, the nearest location of sensitive receptors is on the project site.

The ARB's Air Quality and Land Use Handbook (Land Use Handbook) was used to determine if the project would be considered a "source" of toxic air contaminants. The Land Use Handbook contains recommendations for locating sensitive receptors in relation to known sources of toxic air contaminants in order to minimize potential health impacts to sensitive receptors (ARB 2005). The Land Use Handbook recommends avoiding siting new receptors within 1,000 feet of a distribution center that accommodates more than 100 trucks per day. Although the project is not a distribution center, the guidance is a good gauge of potential significance. As previously mentioned, operation of the project would result in a minimal increase in employee vehicle trips and a reduction of existing inmate offsite transport trips. Additional operational vehicle trips would be far less than 100. As

such, potential health risks and exposure to TACs from operation of the project are less than significant.

Operation: CO Hotspot

As shown in discussion 3 b) above, the project would not create a localized CO hotspot. Therefore, the project would not expose receptors to substantial CO concentrations from operational activities.

Conclusion

The project would not expose receptors to substantial quantities or significant concentrations of asbestos from renovation or soils disturbance, construction-generated fugitive dust, construction-generated DPM, operational TACs, or CO hotspots. Therefore, the project would result in a less than significant impact.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Less than significant impact. As indicated in the GAMAQI, while offensive odors rarely cause any physical harm, they can be very unpleasant, leading to considerable distress among the public and often generating citizen complaints to local governments and the SJVAPCD. Any project with the potential to frequently expose members of the public to objectionable odors would be deemed to have a significant impact. Odor impacts on residential areas and other sensitive receptors, such as hospitals, day-care centers, schools, etc., warrant the closest scrutiny, but consideration should also be given to other land uses where people may congregate, such as recreational facilities, worksites, and commercial areas. Analysis of potential odor impacts should be conducted for the following two situations:

- **Generators** – projects that would potentially generate odorous emissions proposed to locate near existing sensitive receptors or other land uses where people may congregate, and
- **Receivers** – residential or other sensitive receptor projects or other projects built for the intent of attracting people locating near existing odor sources.

Because offensive odors rarely cause any physical harm and no requirements for their control are included in state or federal air quality regulations, the SJVAPCD has no rules or standards related to odor emissions, other than its nuisance rule. Any actions related to odors are based on citizen complaints to local governments and the SJVAPCD.

Land uses typically associated with odors include wastewater treatment facilities, waste disposal facilities, or agricultural operations. The existing institution does not produce or concentrate odiferous pollutants. Operations of the proposed project would be similar to the baseline conditions in regard to odor. Diesel exhaust and ROGs—considered by some to be objectionable odors—would be emitted during construction of the project, but emissions would disperse rapidly from the project

site and would not be at a level considered to induce a negative response. Therefore, the proposed project would not create significant amounts of objectionable odors and would not place sensitive receptors in proximity to existing odor sources. Impacts would be less than significant.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
4. Biological Resources *Would the project:*				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

WSP is located in the City of Wasco, in the north-central portion of Kern County. Local topography within the City is generally flat. Urban areas of Wasco are located to the east of the project site, while agricultural land surrounds the project site. Temperatures in the project vicinity range from an average monthly high of 99.3°F in July to an average monthly low of 35.2°F in December. The average annual rainfall in the project area, as recorded between 1948 and 2005, is 6.83 inches (WRCC 2013).

Vegetation Communities and Wildlife Habitats

Vegetation communities are assemblages of plant species that occur together in the same area and are defined by their structure and by the relative abundance of associated plant species. The vegetation communities within the project site are classified as urban according to the Guide to Wildlife Habitats (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). By using this classification system, it is possible to predict the wildlife species likely to occur within the project site using the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship system (CWHR). CWHR is based upon the Guide to Wildlife Habitats, a predictive model that lists species likely to occur in a given location under certain habitat conditions.

The proposed improvements at WSP are within the existing secure perimeter lethal electrified fence surrounding the facility. The proposed site does not support any native vegetative communities. Vegetated areas within WSP are mowed as part of ongoing facility maintenance. Soils are compacted and have been disturbed during previous construction. The areas associated with the proposed project are considered to have low habitat quality and provide limited habitat for wildlife species.

Wildlife diversity at the project site is low because of the relatively poor-quality habitat provided by the ruderal and lawn vegetation. Furthermore, there is a high level of disturbance in the vicinity of the site. Wildlife species observed or expected to occur on the project site are limited to those adapted to disturbed conditions, such as American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchus*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), and pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*).

Special-Status Species

Special-status species are those wildlife and plant species that, in the judgment of the resource agencies, trustee agencies, and certain non-governmental organizations, warrant special consideration in the CEQA process. These include the following species:

- Officially designated “threatened,” “endangered,” or “candidate” species federally listed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act.
- Officially designated “rare,” “threatened,” “endangered,” or “candidate” species. State listed by the CDFW and protected under the California Endangered Species Act. CDFW also maintains a list of “Fully Protected” species as well as “California Species of Special Concern” that are also generally included as special-status species under CEQA.
- Taxa considered rare, threatened, or endangered under the conditions of Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines, such as plant taxa identified on lists 1A, 1B, and 2 in the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California.
- Bat species listed as Medium or High Priority by the Western Bat Working Group.

Methodology

This evaluation of biological resources includes a review and inventory of potentially occurring special-status species (including those officially designated as endangered or threatened), wildlife habitats, vegetation communities, and jurisdictional waters of the U.S. or State of California. The setting descriptions provided in this section are based upon a combination of literature reviews, site photographs, aerial photographs, and database queries. The reference data reviewed for this report include the following:

- Pond, Wasco NW, Wasco, and Wasco SW, California, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps (USGS 1974, 1973, 1973, and 1973 respectively)
- CDFW California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System (CDFW 2013a)
- California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), RareFind 4 computer program for the Pond, Wasco NW, Wasco, and Wasco SW, California, USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps (CDFW 2013b)
- California Native Plant Society Electronic Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants for the Pond, Wasco NW, Wasco, and Wasco SW , California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps (CNPS 2013)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Office. Federal Endangered and Threatened Species that Occur in Pond, Wasco NW, Wasco, and Wasco SW, California, USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps (USFWS 2013a)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species (USFWS 2013b)
- Special Animals List (CDFW 2013c)
- Endangered and Threatened Animals List (CDFW 2010d)
- Special Plants List (CDFW 2013e)

Special-Status Plant Species

The special-status plant species reviewed for this document are included in several lists provided in Appendix B. These lists were compiled from query results from CNDDB and the CNPS online inventory. CNDDB-recorded occurrences of special-status plant species within five miles of the project site are shown in Exhibit 5.

As indicated in Appendix B, several regionally occurring species have no potential to occur within the project site, either because the distribution of the species does not extend into the vicinity or because the habitat and/or micro-site conditions (e.g., serpentine soils) required by the species are not present. As shown on Exhibit 5, no sensitive plant or wildlife species has been recorded to occur

within the project site. However, two sensitive plant species, California jewel-flower (*Caulanthus californicus*) and recurved larkspur (*Delphinium recurvatum*) were recorded within five miles of the project site. California jewel-flower and recurved larkspur were both previously recorded to occur 4.7 miles northeast of the project site in 1977 and 1927 respectively. Other sensitive plant species recorded to occur within the same topographic quadrangle as the project site include heartscale (*Atriplex cordulata* var. *cordulata*), Earlimart orache (*Atriplex cordulata* var. *erecticaulis*), Lost Hills crownscale (*Atriplex coronata* var. *vallicola*), lesser saltscale (*Atriplex minuscula*), subtle orache (*Atriplex subtilis*), slough thistle (*Cirsium crassicaule*), and Munz's tidy tips (*Layia munzii*).

No suitable habitat for California jewel-flower and recurved larkspur currently exists onsite. There is no potential for these species or any other special-status plants to occur within the project site.

Special-Status Wildlife Species

The special-status wildlife species reviewed for this document are included in several lists provided in Appendix B. The CNDDB list was queried for results. CNDDB-recorded occurrences of special-status wildlife species within five miles of the project site are shown in Exhibit 5. No critical habitat occurs within or adjacent to the proposed project site.

As indicated in Appendix B, several regionally occurring species were determined not to have the potential to occur within the project site, either because the distribution of the species does not extend into the vicinity, or because the habitat or habitat elements (e.g., caves, tall snags) required by the species are not present.

As indicated in Exhibit 5, the blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia silus*) and San Joaquin kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*) have been recorded on undeveloped lands within one mile of the project site. However, as indicated in Appendix B, these species have a low potential to occur onsite. Other sensitive wildlife species recorded to occur within the same topographic quadrangle as the project site include coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), Le Conte's thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Nelson's antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*), Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides*), and San Joaquin pocket mouse (*Perognathus inornatus inornatus*). These species also have a low potential to occur onsite.

Other Sensitive Biological Resources

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) protects all common wild birds found in the United States except the house sparrow, starling, feral pigeon, and resident game birds such as pheasant, grouse, quail, and wild turkey. Resident game birds are managed separately by each state. The MBTA makes it unlawful for anyone to kill, capture, collect, possess, buy, sell, trade, ship, import, or export any migratory bird including feathers, parts, nests, or eggs (defined as "take").

Section 3503 of the California Fish and Game Code makes it illegal to destroy any birds' nest or any birds' eggs that are protected under the MBTA. Section 3503.5 further protects all birds in the orders

Falconiformes and Strigiformes (birds of prey such as hawks and owls) and their eggs and nests from any form of take.

A review of the USFWS's Critical Habitat designations for threatened and endangered species across the United States indicated that no critical habitat exists within the proposed project's vicinity. According to the query, the nearest existing critical habitat is located over 20 miles north of the proposed project site (USFWS 2013b).

Improvements associated with WSP would occur within the existing lethal electrified fence. There are no additional sensitive biological resources within or immediately adjacent to any of the project components. There are no wetlands, native trees, critical habitat, or existing ornamental trees that would be altered or removed during construction.

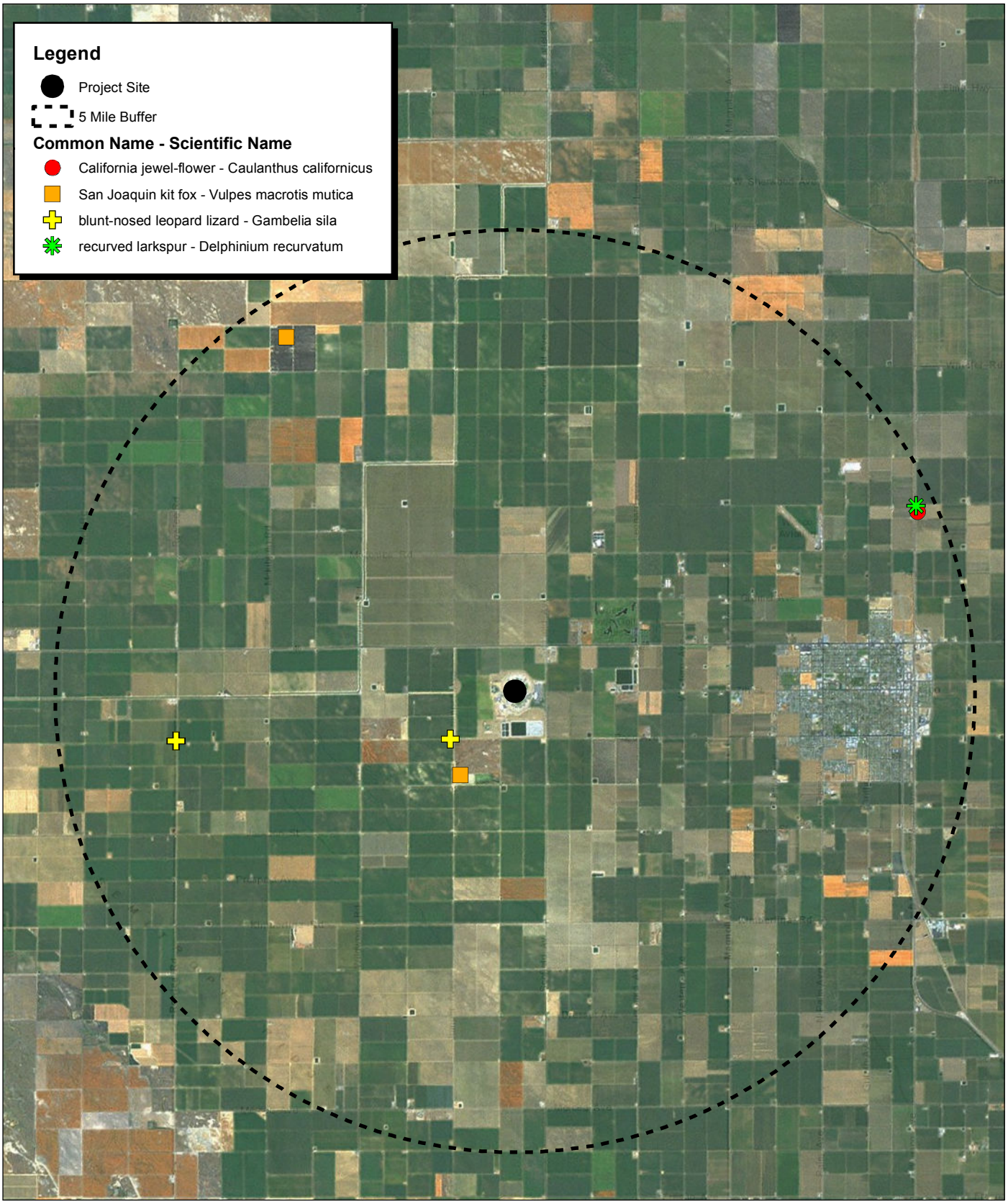
Discussion

Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less than significant impact. Based on a field reconnaissance survey performed on September 11, 2013, a literature review (as previously discussed), and the distance from known recorded occurrences of sensitive plant and wildlife species, the project site consists of developed and disturbed land and does not provide suitable habitat for any federally or state listed threatened or endangered species, or other sensitive plant or wildlife species, and it is highly unlikely that any sensitive plant or wildlife species would be directly impacted during project construction. All construction activities would occur on pre-developed or graded land within WSP's existing footprint.

As previously mentioned the California jewel-flower, recurved larkspur, heartscale, Earlimart orache, Lost Hills crownscale, lesser saltscale, subtle orache, slough thistle, Munz's tidy tips, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, San Joaquin kit fox, coast horned lizard, Le Conte's thrasher, burrowing owl, Nelson's antelope squirrel, Tipton kangaroo rat, and San Joaquin pocket mouse have been recorded within five miles of the project site or are within the same topographic quadrangle map as the project site. Because the proposed project would be located on previously disturbed land where current institution-related activities prevent the growth of native vegetation, there is a very low likelihood for California jewel-flower, recurved larkspur, heartscale, Earlimart orache, Lost Hills crownscale, lesser saltscale, subtle orache, slough thistle, and Munz's tidy tips to be present.



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery. CNDDB Data, September 2013.

Exhibit 5
CNDDB-Recorded Occurrences of Special-StatusSpecies Within Five Miles of the Project Site

NORTH

1.5 0.75 0 1.5

Miles

Michael Brandman Associates

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The blunt-nosed leopard lizard, San Joaquin kit fox, coast horned lizard, Le Conte's thrasher, burrowing owl, Nelson's antelope squirrel, Tipton kangaroo rat, and San Joaquin pocket mouse are unlikely to occur within the project site because of the lethal electrified fence that surrounds the institution. The impacts to sensitive wildlife species associated with the lethal electrified fence are covered by a separate incidental take permit.

There are no shrubs or trees capable of providing suitable nesting habitat for migratory birds within 300 feet of the proposed project's components. Suitable habitat for ground-dwelling birds (e.g., burrowing owl) may be present outside WSP's secure perimeter fence, particularly on an area of undeveloped land located to the southwest. However, this area is located more than 0.5 mile from the nearest sub-project location and existing WSP buildings and infrastructure would separate it from any proposed construction. No ground disturbance would occur outside of the secure perimeter fence. Because of the existing level of human activity and ground disturbance within WSP, the likelihood for ground-dwelling birds to be present on immediately adjacent undeveloped land is low and indirect impacts would not be likely to occur. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

No impact. The proposed site does not support any native vegetative communities. Vegetated areas within WSP are mowed as part of ongoing facility maintenance. There are no riparian habitats or other natural communities identified by CDFW, USFWS, or within regional plans or policies that would be impacted by the proposed project (confirmed by MBA biologist field reconnaissance survey, September 11, 2013). No impacts would occur.

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

No impact. There are no state or federally regulated wetlands or drainage features as defined by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the State Water Control Board, or the CDFW within the project site (confirmed by MBA biologist field reconnaissance survey, September 11, 2013). No impacts would occur.

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites?

No impact. Because of the developed nature of the project site and the existing secure perimeter, development would not create an impediment to any existing migratory corridor or movement of wildlife. All proposed development would occur within WSP's existing footprint. No impacts would occur.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No impact. As a state agency, CDCR is generally exempt from local plans, policies, and regulations, but it does consider them for purposes of complying with federal or state law. The City of Wasco 2002 General Plan Policy 3.1.6 promotes biological diversity and the use of plant species compatible with the bio-region. Because of the disturbed nature of the project site, natural habitat is not present onsite. Furthermore, minimal onsite landscaping is present and no additional landscaping is proposed. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No impact. CDCR has an approved Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for its Statewide Electrified Fence Project (1999). The HCP covers the operation of lethal electrified fences that surround 27 state prisons, including WSP. The proposed project would not involve impacts or modification to the existing lethal electrified. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with the HCP.

The proposed project site is not located within the boundaries of any other HCP or natural communities conservation plan. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
5. Cultural Resources *Would the project:*				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

Review of historic topographic maps dated 1930, 1943, 1954, and 1977, as well an aerial maps dated 1994 and 2005, were examined as a part of this analysis to determine previous uses of the project site (NETROnline 2013). The project site is shown as undeveloped up to the 1977 map. The area was mostly undeveloped prior to the opening of WSP in 1991.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?

Less than significant impact. Historic aerials and topographic maps indicate that the WSP site had been undeveloped prior to its use as a correctional institution. All onsite structures were constructed in 1991 or after, and therefore would not qualify as historical resources as defined in CCR Section 15064.5. WSP's grounds have been extensively graded and disturbed over the years by previous excavations, trenching, and development projects. Since the project would conduct only minor excavations of less than three feet below existing grade at the proposed sub-project locations, there would be no impact to previously undisturbed soils. Therefore, impacts to historical resources would be less than significant.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Less than significant impact. The improvements at WSP would be located in previously graded areas and areas disturbed by previous excavations, trenching, and institutional development projects that completely disrupted topsoils in and near the perimeter of the institution. Because no aspects of the project would impact soils below the expected level of modern-era disturbance, the potential for impacts to buried archeological resources is considered low. Furthermore, implementation of the inadvertent discovery clause described under Environmental Protection Design Features in Section 2.6 would ensure this impact would be less than significant.

c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Less than significant impact. According to the Geologic Atlas of California – Bakersfield Sheet, the project site is underlain by quaternary alluvial fan deposits, (CDC 1964). Quaternary deposits have supported fossils beds in Kern County. However, all onsite soils, including all land inside the institution not yet built upon, were graded and engineered during construction of WSP in 1991. The technical studies for the original prison showed low potential for archaeological resources to occur. It is highly unlikely that archaeological and paleontological resources exist onsite. Furthermore, implementation of the inadvertent discovery clause described under Environmental Protection Design Features in Section 2.6 would ensure this impact would be less than significant.

d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Less than significant impact. Human remains are unlikely to be found in the disturbed soil horizons of the project site. Nonetheless, implementation of the inadvertent discovery clause described under Environmental Protection Design Features in Section 2.6 would ensure this impact would be less than significant.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
6. Geology and Soils *Would the project:*				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

WSP is located in the southern San Joaquin Valley portion of the Great Valley Geomorphic Province of California. This province is bounded by the California Coast Range to the west and the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the east. Local topography within the project vicinity is generally flat. The southern portion of the Sierra Nevada mountain range is located to the east, the Tehachapi Mountains to the south, and the Temblor Range (part of the California Coast Range) to the west.

According to the Geologic Atlas of California – Bakersfield Sheet, the project site is underlain by alluvial fan deposits (CDC 1964).

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey, WSP is located on soils consisting primarily of Kimberlina fine sandy loam and Wasco sandy loam (NRCS 2013).

The closest fault to the project site is the Pond-Poso Fault, located approximately 8.5 miles to the northeast. The San Andreas Fault is located approximately 32 miles to the southwest and the Garlock Fault is located approximately 60 miles to the southeast of the proposed project site.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

No impact. The Alquist-Priolo Act (PRC Sections 2621-2630) was passed in 1972 to mitigate the hazard of surface faulting to structures designed for human occupancy. Surface rupture is an actual cracking or breaking of the ground along a fault during an earthquake. Structures built over an active fault can be structurally compromised if the ground ruptures. Surface ground rupture along faults is generally limited to a linear zone a few yards wide. The Alquist-Priolo Act was created to prohibit the location of structures designed for human occupancy across the traces of active faults, thereby reducing the loss of life and property from an earthquake.

The closest fault to the project site is the Pond-Poso Fault located approximately 8.5 miles to the northeast. According to the Alquist-Priolo Map by the California Department of Conservation, the project site is located outside the fault zone of the Pond-Poso Fault (CDC 2013). In summary, there are no active faults designated on the Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone maps underneath or directly adjacent to the project site. Any surface ground rupture along the Pond-Poso Fault would be located 8.5 miles northeast of the project site. Therefore, the project site would not be susceptible to fault rupture and no impact would occur.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Less than significant impact. Ground shaking—motion that occurs because of energy released during faulting—could result in damage or collapse of buildings and other structures, depending on the magnitude of the earthquake, the location of the epicenter, and the character and duration of the

ground motion. Other factors that determine the amount of potential damage from strong seismic ground shaking are the characteristics of the underlying soil and rock, the building materials used, and the workmanship of the structure.

Ground motions from seismic activity can be estimated by a probabilistic method at specified hazard levels. These levels are determined by projecting earthquake rates based on earthquake history and fault slip rates (CGS 2007). Ground shaking is expressed in terms of peak ground acceleration using a percentage of gravity or a percentage of the earth's normal gravitational strength. The intensity of ground shaking depends on the distance from the earthquake epicenter to the site, the magnitude of the earthquake, site soil conditions, and the characteristic of the source. According to the Kern County General Plan, the County is located in an area vulnerable to moderate to severe ground shaking in the event of an earthquake (Kern County 2007).

The Pond Fault lies approximately eight miles northeast of the project site, while the San Andreas Fault lies approximately 32 miles south of the project site, and runs northwest to southeast. The San Andreas Fault is a continental transform fault of about 800 miles in length (USGS 2013). In 2004, a 6.0 magnitude earthquake was recorded near Avenal, California approximately 56 miles northwest from WSP (EarthquakeTrack 2012). The San Andreas Fault has resulted in catastrophic earthquakes in San Francisco in 1906 and Loma Prieta in 1989. Both of these earthquakes were several hundred miles north of the project site. Nonetheless, there is the potential for strong seismic ground shaking at the project site.

As described under Section 2.6, Environmental Protection Design Features, the proposed project has been designed to be consistent with CBC Title 24 regulations and Appendix D of CDCR's Design Criteria Guidelines. The CBC requires extensive geotechnical analysis and engineering for grading, foundations, retaining walls, and other structures, including criteria for seismic design. Incorporation of standard CBC design and construction methods would ensure that risks resulting from seismic shaking would be minimized. In addition, a geotechnical engineering report would be prepared as a part of the project. The geotechnical engineering report would provide site-specific recommendations regarding site preparation, appropriate sources and types of fill, structural foundations, grading practices, erosion/winterization, slope stability, and earthquake-resistant design. Incorporation of recommendations from the geotechnical engineering report and conformance to the CBC would ensure that the proposed project would result in less than significant impacts related to seismic ground shaking.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Less than significant impact. Liquefaction is a process by which water-saturated materials (including soils, sediment, and certain types of volcanic deposits) lose strength and may fail during strong ground shaking. Liquefaction occurs most frequently where unconsolidated sediments and a high water table coincide. In some cases, a complete loss of strength occurs and catastrophic ground

failure may result. Factors determining the liquefaction potential are soil type, the level and duration of seismic ground motions, the type and consistency of soils, and the depth to groundwater.

According to the California Department of Conservation regulatory maps, the project site is not located within a designated liquefaction zone (CDC 2007). Higher water tables are associated with more severe liquefaction. According to the NRCS's Web Soil Survey, onsite water table depth is greater than 6.5 feet below ground surface (NRCS 2013).

As previously noted, and as included in Section 2.6, the proposed project's components have been designed to be consistent with CBC Title 24 regulations and Appendix D of CDCR's Design Criteria Guidelines. These regulations require the preparation of a geotechnical engineering report (that would address any onsite liquefaction potential) and incorporation of resulting recommendations into project plans, thereby ensuring that impacts related to liquefaction would be less than significant.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact. Landslides include many phenomena that involve the downslope displacement and movement of material, either triggered by static (gravitational) or dynamic (earthquake) forces. Steep, unstable slopes in weak soil or bedrock units typically characterize areas susceptible to landslides. WSP is located on flat terrain and contains previously graded and engineered soils. Areas surrounding WSP are primarily flat. The nearest terrain potentially capable of producing a landslide is more than 18 miles to the east. Therefore, no impact related to landslides would occur.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less than significant impact. The proposed project would be constructed within the current WSP boundary. Surface soils at WSP consist primarily of Kimberlina fine sandy loam and Wasco sandy loam (NRCS 2013). All soil types onsite are well drained. The proposed project would disturb approximately 42,547 square feet or 0.98 acre of land inclusive of construction staging areas. All exterior areas to be disturbed have been previously graded or disturbed. Construction activities associated with the proposed project would involve grading and excavation activities that could expose barren soils to sources of wind or water, resulting in the potential for erosion and sedimentation on and off the project site. However, implementation of the environmental protection design features for water quality and erosion protection described in Section 2.6, including CDCR's standard erosion controls, sedimentation controls, and stormwater system design, would ensure that potential impacts from soil erosion or loss of topsoil would be less than significant.

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

Less than significant impact. All project components would be located within the developed WSP footprint on soils that have been previously graded and engineered and do not contain any significant slopes. As indicated in Section 2.6, Environmental Protection Design Features, conformance with CBC requirements and implementation of soil preparation recommendations of the site-specific geotechnical engineering report would ensure that onsite soils are stable prior to building construction. Existing buildings undergoing renovations as a part of the project are not located on unstable soils. Therefore, impacts related to a geologic unit or soil that is unstable would be less than significant.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

Less than significant impact. Expansive soils are mainly comprised of clay. According to the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the two main types of soil located on the project site range from approximately 13 to 15 percent clay. Since clay is not the main component of the onsite soils, risks from expansion are low. Nonetheless, as indicated in Environmental Protection Design Features in Section 2.6, prior to construction, all necessary soil preparation procedures recommended by a site-specific geotechnical engineering report would occur. Therefore, impacts related to expansive soils would be less than significant.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

No impact. The proposed project does not include the installation or use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Wastewater generated at WSP is treated at the WSP wastewater treatment plant, located within the institution property. Therefore, no impacts to soils due to septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
7. Greenhouse Gas Emissions *Would the project:*				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

Climate change is a change in the average weather of the earth that may be measured by changes in wind patterns, storms, precipitation, and temperature. These changes are assessed using historical records of temperature changes that have occurred in the past, such as during previous ice ages. Many of the concerns regarding climate change use this data to extrapolate a level of statistical significance specifically focusing on temperature records from the last 150 years (the Industrial Age) that differ from previous climate changes in rate and magnitude.

Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are greenhouse gases (GHGs). The effect is analogous to the way a greenhouse retains heat. Common GHGs include water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxides, chlorofluorocarbons, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, ozone, and aerosols. Natural processes and human activities emit GHGs. The presence of GHGs in the atmosphere affects the earth's temperature. However, it is believed that emissions from human activities, such as electricity production and vehicle use, have elevated the concentration of these gases in the atmosphere beyond the level of naturally occurring concentrations.

There have been significant legislative and regulatory activities that directly and indirectly affect climate change and GHGs in California. The primary climate change legislation in California is AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. AB 32 requires that GHGs emitted in California be reduced to 1990 levels by the year 2020. GHGs as defined under AB 32 include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. The California Air Resource Board (ARB) is the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of GHGs that cause global warming in order to reduce emissions of GHGs.

The ARB approved the Climate Change Scoping Plan (Scoping Plan) in December 2008. The Scoping Plan contains measures designed to reduce the State's emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. The Scoping Plan "proposes a comprehensive set of actions designed to reduce overall

greenhouse gas emissions in California, improve our environment, reduce our dependence on oil, diversify our energy sources, save energy, create new jobs, and enhance public health" (ARB 2008). The measures in the Scoping Plan were to be developed over the subsequent two years through rule development at the ARB and other agencies.

Emissions Inventories and Trends

California is the second largest contributor in the United States of GHGs and the sixteenth-largest in the world (California Energy Commission [CEC] 2006). According to the ARB's recent greenhouse gas inventory for the State, released August 2013, California produced 448.1 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents ($MTCO_2e$) in 2011 (ARB 2013). The major source of GHGs in California is transportation, contributing 37.6 percent of the State's total GHG emissions in 2011.

Potential Environmental Effects

For California, climate change in the form of warming has the potential to incur/exacerbate environmental impacts, including but not limited to changes to precipitation and runoff patterns, increased agricultural demand for water, inundation of low-lying coastal areas by sea-level rise, and increased incidents and severity of wildfire events (Moser et al. 2009). Cooling of the climate may have the opposite or different effects. Although certain environmental effects are widely accepted to be a potential hazard to certain locations, such as rising sea level for low-lying coastal areas, it is currently infeasible to predict all environmental effects of climate change on any one location.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Less than significant impact. The proposed project may contribute to climate change impacts through its contribution of GHGs. This analysis is restricted to GHGs identified by AB 32, which include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. The proposed project would generate a variety of GHGs during construction and operation, including several defined by AB 32, such as CO_2, CH_4, and N_2O from the exhaust of equipment and the exhaust of vehicles from employees and construction hauling trips. The proposed project may also emit GHGs that are not defined by AB 32. For example, the proposed project may generate aerosols from DPM exhaust. Aerosols are short-lived GHGs, as they remain in the atmosphere for approximately one week. The proposed project would emit ROG and NO_x, which are ozone precursors. Ozone is a GHG. However, unlike the other GHGs, ozone in the troposphere is relatively short-lived and is being reduced in the troposphere on a daily basis.

Certain GHGs defined by AB 32 would not be emitted by the project. Perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride are typically used in industrial applications, none of which would be used by the project. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the proposed project would emit perfluorocarbons or sulfur hexafluoride.

The basis of the SJVAPCD's threshold for greenhouse gas emissions is ARB's calculated AB 32-required target reduction for year 2020, as described in the ARB's AB 32 Scoping Plan. At the time that the ARB's AB 32 Scoping Plan was developed, the ARB forecasted the year 2020 business as usual scenario would result in 596 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents ($MMTCO_2e$). Therefore, it was calculated that the State would need to achieve a 29 percent reduction from the year 2020 business as usual forecast to hit the emission reduction goal of 427 $MMTCO_2e$. However, because ARB revised the year 2020 emissions forecast, the State's percentage reduction goal is now 22 percent. It follows that because the State's emission reduction goal and business as usual forecast is the basis of the SJVAPCD's threshold of significance, and because the State's percent reduction from year 2020 business as usual has been recalculated from 29 percent to 22 percent, then the SJVAPCD's threshold would similarly be updated to the current forecast.

The project's estimated construction and operational emissions of greenhouse gases are provided below. For assumptions used in estimating these emissions, please refer to Appendix A.

Construction

Greenhouse gas emissions for construction are shown in Table 6. Construction equipment is expected to be used on the project site and would result in exhaust emissions consisting of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. Project construction emissions would occur prior to year 2020, which is the target year for the SJVAPCD's threshold of significance for greenhouse gases. In addition, the SJVAPCD's guidance does not address greenhouse gas emissions from project construction. Therefore, because the project construction emissions are short-term in nature, occur prior to year 2020, and are limited in quantity, the project's construction emissions would be less than significant.

Table 6: Construction Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Phase	Total $MTCO_2e$ (tons/year)
Demolition	6.70
Site Preparation	0.52
Grading	23.47
Building Construction	79.08
Paving	3.59
Architectural Coating	0.74
Total	**114.11**

Note:
$MTCO_2e$ = metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents
Source: CalEEMod output (Appendix A).

Operation

The SJVAPCD's guidance states that "business as usual" is defined in ARB's AB 32 Scoping Plan as emissions occurring in 2020 if the average baseline emissions during the 2005 period grew to 2020 levels without additional control. As previously stated, the State's percent reduction from year 2020 business as usual has been recalculated from 29 percent to 22 percent and was subsequently adopted as a threshold by the SJVAPCD. As shown in Table 7, operation of the project would generate approximately 679.34 $MTCO_2e$ per year, after full buildout in 2020. This represents a 22-percent reduction from 2005 emissions, which does not exceed the threshold of 22 percent as outlined by SJVAPCD. In other words, the project's emissions after full buildout in 2020 would meet the 22-percent emission reductions threshold from year 2005.

Table 7: Operational Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Emission Source	$MTCO_2e$ per year		Percent Reduction
	2005 Emissions	2020 Emissions	
Area	0	0	0%
Energy	156.67	128.06	18%
Mobile (Vehicles)	586.08	428.03	27%
Waste	115.46	115.46	0%
Water	8.89	7.79	12.4%
Total Emissions	**867.10**	**679.34**	**22%**
Does the Project Exceed Threshold?			**No**

Note:
$MTCO_2e$ = metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent
Source: CalEEMod output (Appendix A).

Conclusion

As shown in Table 6 and Table 7, the proposed project's construction and operational emissions would not have a significant impact on GHG emissions. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Less than significant impact. Neither the City of Wasco, Kern County, nor the SJVAPCD has adopted plans, policies, or regulations for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the applicable adopted law is AB 32, and the applicable plan is the Scoping Plan adopted by ARB, as discussed previously under Environmental Setting above.

The Scoping Plan states, "The 2020 goal was established to be an aggressive, but achievable, mid-term target, and the 2050 GHG emissions reduction goal represents the level scientists believe is

necessary to reach levels that would stabilize climate" (ARB 2008). The year 2020 GHG reduction goal of AB 32 corresponds with the mid-term target established by Executive Order S-3-05, which aims to reduce California's fair-share contribution of greenhouse gases in 2050 to levels that would stabilize the climate.

Construction of the proposed project is estimated to generate greenhouse gases. However, AB 32 requires the greenhouse gas emissions generated in California in year 2020 be equal to or less than California's statewide inventory from 1990. Construction emissions would occur before the year 2020, so the project's construction would not contribute to year 2020 emissions. Therefore, construction emissions would not conflict with AB 32 Scoping Plan.

The Scoping Plan recommended measures for multiple greenhouse gas emission sectors and the associated emission reductions needed to achieve the year 2020 emissions target—each sector has a different emission reduction target. Most of the measures target the transportation and electricity sectors. As stated in the Scoping Plan, the key elements of the strategy for achieving the 2020 GHG target include:

- Expanding and strengthening existing energy efficiency programs as well as building and appliance standards.
- Achieving a statewide renewable energy mix of 33 percent.
- Developing a California cap-and-trade program that links with other Western Climate Initiative partner programs to create a regional market system.
- Establishing targets for transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions for regions throughout California and pursuing policies and incentives to achieve those targets.
- Adopting and implementing measures pursuant to existing State laws and policies, including California's clean car standards, goods movement measures, and the Low Carbon Fuel Standard.
- Creating targeted fees, including a public goods charge on water use, fees on high global warming potential gases, and a fee to fund the administrative costs of the State's long-term commitment to AB 32 implementation.

As an institutional facility (rather than a residential, energy sector, or commercial facility), the majority of the Scoping Plan's recommended measures do not apply. The Scoping Plan's recommended measures mainly target reductions in the transportation and electricity sectors and do not directly apply to the project. Implementation of certain Scoping Plan measures may obliquely affect the project, such as the low carbon fuel standard and enactment of the AB 1493 (Pavley) standards, as part of California AB 1493. Pavley required the ARB to develop and adopt regulations

that reduce GHGs emitted by passenger vehicles and light duty trucks. The only measure directly applicable to the proposed project is energy efficiency.

As indicated in Environmental Protection Design Features in Section 2.6, the project would be consistent with Title 24, Part 6 energy efficiency standards. Consistent with Executive Order B-18-12, sustainable measures and conservation features would be implemented in accordance with the Green Building Code, assuring minimal energy use and further minimizing direct and indirect GHG emissions from project operations. In addition, WSP operates a recycling and salvage program for metal, cardboard, and white paper, resulting in a 40-percent reduction of solid waste delivered to landfills. WSP reduces the consumption of new materials through source reduction measures, such as using reusable cups and trays, use of electronic forms, and double-sided copies. Furthermore, WSP performs a variety of best management practices for water management and conservation for the prisons, including items such as eliminating non-essential water use, modifying practices for water efficient landscaping, and leak detection and repair in buildings.

The proposed project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for reducing the emissions of GHGs for the following reasons:

- The project would generate low levels of greenhouse gases at project buildout (See discussion 7 a) above);
- The project would meet the required 22 percent reduction in GHGs from BAU;
- Sustainable measures and conservation features will be implemented for the WSP project in accordance with the Green Building Code.

Therefore, because the GHG emissions would be less than significant, the project would comply with applicable Scoping Plan measures, and implement Green Building Code measures, the GHG impacts from the proposed project would be less than significant.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
8. Hazards and Hazardous Materials *Would the project:*				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

WSP was constructed in 1991, prior to which, the project site was undeveloped.

WSP is not listed on the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Hazardous Waste and Substances List (DTSC 2013), the Superfund National Priorities List (EPA 2013), or as a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) generator of hazardous waste according to the EPA's Envirofacts database (EPA 2013). There are no leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites listed on the DTSC's Envirostor database within 0.5 mile of WSP (DTSC 2013).

The project area was visually inspected for hazardous materials during a site visit on September 11, 2013 by a qualified environmental professional. No potential hazards were identified at any of the sub-project locations. The following discussion is based on database reviews, findings of the inspection, and conversations with institution personnel.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Less than significant impact.

Short Term Construction Impacts

Construction and operation of the proposed project would involve the transport and handling of hazardous substances such as diesel fuels, lubricants, solvents, asphalt, hospital supplies and waste. Handling and transport of these materials could result in the exposure of workers to hazardous materials. However, the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment, because project construction and operation would comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws pertaining to the safe handling and transport of hazardous materials, including California Division of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal OSHA) requirements. For example, the California Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Law of 1985 (Business Plan Act) required preparation of Hazardous Materials Business Plans and disclosure of hazardous materials inventories. In addition, the proposed project's implementation of CDCR's standard construction stormwater control measures would include spill prevention and cleanup measures applicable to hazardous waste.

The proposed project would be in accordance with WSP's Hazardous Materials Business Plan, which includes an inventory of hazardous materials handled, facility floor plans showing where hazardous materials are stored, an emergency response plan, and provisions for employee training in safety and emergency response procedures (California Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.95,

Article 1). In addition, Cal OSHA's regulations for the use of hazardous materials in the workplace, as detailed in CCR Title 8, include requirements for safety training, availability of safety equipment, accidents and illness prevention programs, hazardous substance exposure warnings, and the emergency action and fire prevention plan preparation. Cal OSHA enforces hazard communication program regulations that contain training and information requirements, including procedures for identifying and labeling hazardous substances, communicating hazard information related to hazardous substances and their handling, and preparing health and safety plans to protect workers and employees at hazardous waste sites. The hazard communication program requires that Material Safety Data Sheets be available to employees and that employee information and training programs are documented.

Long-Term Operations

Medical facility operations, such as those included in the proposed project, typically involve the transport, storage, and use of relatively small quantities of materials that would be classified as hazardous. Types of hazardous materials found in medical facilities include pharmaceuticals; chemicals used to sterilize equipment; formaldehyde for specimen preservation; solvents, oxidizers, corrosives, and stains used in clinical laboratories; photographic processing chemicals used in some x-ray equipment; and certain biohazardous toxins used in treatment and processing. Facilities maintenance activities require various common hazardous materials, including cleaners (typically soaps and detergents, but also solvents and corrosives), paint, pesticides and herbicides (used in building maintenance), fuels (e.g., diesel), and oils and lubricants.

The medical facilities would also use and store radioactive material, used primarily to treat certain types of cancer. X-ray equipment is also regulated as radioactive material. Radioactive materials decay (become non-radioactive) over time. The time it takes for a material to shed approximately one-half of its radioactivity is referred to as the material's half-life. Radioactive materials with half-lives greater than 90 days are considered long-lived radioactive materials, while those with half-lives less than 90 days are considered short-lived radioactive materials. Some long-lived radioactive materials that may be used at the facility, such as those used in x-ray equipment, would essentially be a sealed, stationary source of radiation. Both short-lived and long-lived radioactive materials would be used for patient treatment, primarily for the treatment of cancer. Long-lived radioactive materials (such as cesium 137 used in cancer radiation therapy) are not disposed of but are retained over time for patient treatment.

State and federal laws require detailed planning to ensure that hazardous materials are properly transported, handled, used, stored, and disposed of, and, in the event that such materials are accidentally released, to prevent or to mitigate injury to health or the environment. The California Department of Public Health's Medical Waste Management Act governs the management of medical waste to prevent the dissemination of potentially infectious organisms and the spread of infection to others within the medical center and in the community. Certified Unified Program Agencies

(CUPAs) are responsible for local regulation and enforcement of hazardous materials laws and regulations. The Kern County Environmental Health Services Department serves as the City of Wasco's CUPA.

Conclusion

Use of hazardous materials during construction would be temporary and in accordance with regulation. Furthermore, operation of project components would be consistent with regulations regarding hazardous materials. Therefore, impacts related to the routine use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials would be considered less than significant.

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Less than significant impact. Based on the nature of the hazardous materials that would be used, stored, and/or disposed of during construction (e.g., diesel-fueled equipment, asphalt) and operation (e.g., medical waste) of the proposed project, it is unlikely that upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment would occur. As indicated in discussion 8 a) above, all hazardous materials would be handled in accordance with applicable laws. Medical wastes would be appropriately stored onsite and subsequently disposed of in accordance with health and safety regulations.

Furthermore, because the existing institution was constructed in 1991, it is unlikely that building materials contain hazardous substances (e.g., asbestos, lead, polychlorinated biphenyls and others that were once commonly used in building construction). Nonetheless, prior to project construction, an industrial hygienist would perform a complete hazardous materials assessment of structures to be disturbed by the proposed project. The assessments would include sampling and testing of any suspect materials or coating for asbestos and lead. Any friable materials (material likely to emit asbestos if disturbed) and noted hazardous materials within the project area would be identified for appropriate removal and disposal during construction. All required notifications, equipment, handling, disposal, and clearance testing related to hazardous material removal would be performed in accordance with applicable regulations to ensure worker safety and best management practices are established and followed. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Less than significant impact. No schools are located or proposed to be located within 0.25 mile of the project site. The John L. Prueitt Elementary School is located approximately two miles east of WSP's eastern boundary and 2.2 miles east of the nearest sub-project (Sub-project 4). Based on the distance from the nearest school and the proposed project's components, less than significant impacts

would occur related to emissions or handling of hazardous materials within 0.25 mile of a school or similar type facility.

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

Less than significant impact. As previously indicated, WSP is not listed on the DTSC Hazardous Waste and Substances List (DTSC 2013), the Superfund National Priorities List (EPA 2013), or under the RCRA as a generator of hazardous waste according to the EPA's Envirofacts database (EPA 2013). There are also no LUST sites located within 0.5 mile of the institution.

A qualified hazardous materials professional conducted a site visit on September 11, 2013 and did not identify any potentially hazardous materials or conditions within the areas to be disturbed by the proposed project. Interviews with institution staff further confirmed that there are no potentially hazardous conditions at the project site, and all hazardous materials are handled and stored in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. In summary, implementation of the project would not affect any existing operations that generate hazardous waste and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Impacts would be less than significant.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No impact. The nearest airport to WSP is the Wasco-Kern County Airport (three miles to the northeast). WSP is not located within the land use plan or safety zone of the airport. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area as a result of being located near a public airport. No impact would occur.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No impact. The nearest private airstrip to WSP is Cashen Airport located more than seven miles northwest of the project site. Because of the distance from the private airstrip, no safety hazards exist for people residing or working in the project area, and no impacts would occur.

g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less than significant impact. The California Emergency Services Act (CESA) of 1970 established authority for the preparation of an Emergency Preparedness Plan for correctional institutions. Each CDCR institution must assign an emergency coordinator to implement this plan and must prepare an

Emergency Preparedness Plan for submission to the CDCR Office of Correctional Safety for review and approval. In accordance with CESA, such a plan was developed for WSP according to the requirements of the State Office of Emergency Services and organized according to the specific site needs for this institution. The plan has a sub-plan that clearly identifies measures to be taken pertaining to specific emergencies in each area of the institutions. All institutions are required to ensure preparedness in dealing with disasters such as earthquakes, fires, and floods. The emergency plan for WSP includes a contingency plan to respond to the following types of emergency situations: war, flood, civil disturbance, pollution, earthquake, and fire. The plan provides detailed routes of egress to more secure buildings and/or areas in the event of an emergency evacuation of buildings and/or other areas within WSP. Employees are trained to follow specific instructions and precautionary measures for emergencies, and in the use of emergency equipment and medical aids. The proposed project would not interfere with appropriate compliance with this plan in case of an emergency. The plan would be amended as necessary to ensure adequate coverage for the proposed project and associated buildings and operations. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not physically interfere with or impair implementation of the emergency response plan and impacts would be less than significant.

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

Less than significant impact. WSP is not located within a very high fire hazard severity zone according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Local Responsibility Areas map. The project site is substantially surrounded by agricultural fields, which are not considered to have a high fire potential.

All of the proposed project's components would be constructed within the existing WSP institution. The proposed project would not include additional inmate beds and would not construct residences. The buildings that would be constructed as part of the proposed improvements would be designed to meet all fire code requirements that would address ignition-resistive construction, interior fire sprinklers, and/or sufficient water supply (volume) and pressure. Therefore, impacts related to the exposure of persons or structures to wildfire would be less than significant.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
9. Hydrology and Water Quality *Would the project:*				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☒	☐
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Climate

Temperatures in the project vicinity range from an average monthly high of 99.3°F in July to an average monthly low of 35.2°F in December. The average annual rainfall in the project area, as recorded between 1948 and 2005, is 6.83 inches (WRCC 2013).

Regional Hydrology

The project site is located within the Tulare Lake Hydraulic Region, which covers approximately two-thirds of the Central Valley. The Tulare Lake Hydraulic Region includes 12 distinct groundwater basins and seven subbasins of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin (Kern County 2004). The City of Wasco's groundwater supply is supplied from the Kern County Subbasin.

Within the Tulare Lake Hydraulic Region, WSP is located in the Kern County drainage basin (no. 5.22-14) (CDWR 2003). Major rivers and creeks located within Kern County include Cuddy Creek, Sandy Creek, Poso Creek, Caliente Creek, and Kern River. Other than creeks and rivers, Kern County also has constructed infrastructure waterways. These waterways include intra-county canals such as the Calloway Canal, Beardsley Canal, and Cross Valley Canal. Interstate canals in Kern County include the California Aqueduct, Friant-Kern Canal, and Arvin-Edison Canal (Kern County 2004).

Local Drainage

No named local drainage features were identified. However, a minor drainage swale is located southwest of the project site, approximately 2,000 feet from the project limits.

Site Drainage

The onsite drainage system for WSP consists of perimeter swales, catch basins, and storm drains. The runoff from WSP is collected in a series of pipes and swales and routed into two percolation ponds. The percolation ponds are able to contain runoff from a 50-year, 24 hour storm.

Flood Mapping

WSP is not located within a 100-year flood zone according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map Number 06029C1250E. According to the County of Kern General Plan, the City of Wasco is not in an area susceptible to flood hazards and does not contain shallow groundwater (County of Kern 2007).

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Less than significant impact. Short-term impacts to water quality standards might occur during project construction due to demolition, grading and construction activities resulting in the potential for stormwater to carry sediment and small quantities of pollutants into the stormwater system and local waterways. Implementation of the environmental protection design feature for water quality protection described in Section 2.6 would ensure that the proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted?

Less than significant impact. Groundwater is used for both agricultural and urban uses throughout the Tulare Lake Hydrologic Region. Existing aquifers are generally thick and typical well yields range from 300 gallons per minute (gpm) to 2,000 gpm, with 4,000 gpm possible. The cities of Fresno, Bakersfield, and Visalia have groundwater recharge programs to ensure that groundwater will continue to be a viable water supply in the future. Extensive groundwater recharge programs are also in place in the southern San Joaquin Valley, where water districts have recharged several million acre-feet for future use and transfer. Groundwater quality is generally suitable for most urban and agricultural uses. Average Kern County subbasin water levels have remained unchanged from 1970 to 2000 (CDWR 2003).

WSP receives its potable water entirely from two groundwater wells. Each well has a capacity of approximately 1,250 to 1,300 gpm and delivers raw water to a 2.0-million-gallon, aboveground, steel water storage tank located on the southeast corner of the prison. Annual water usage in 2008 was 329 million gallons or approximately 0.9 mgd, which is well within the capacity of the 2.0-million-gallon water storage tank and production capacity of the wells.

The proposed project would not change the source of potable water, and no groundwater wells would be drilled as part of the proposed project. Furthermore, since water usage at CDCR institutions is largely driven by the number of inmates, and no increase in inmate beds would occur, water use increases would be minimal. Accordingly, the proposed project would not deplete groundwater supplies.

The proposed project would increase impervious surface coverage at WSP by 24,987 square feet or 1.2 percent (based on existing impervious surface area of approximately 2,100,000 square feet). This addition of impervious surface area is minimal and would be located throughout the institution where undeveloped areas would continue to offer recharge potential. Therefore, the proposed project would not interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. Less than significant impacts would occur.

c-e) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion, siltation, or flooding on- or off-site?

Less than significant impact. As stated in discussion 9 b), the increase in impervious surface area at WSP would be insignificant (1.2 percent) relative to the existing impervious areas and 630-acre parcel on which the institution is located. Furthermore, the existing stormwater system would be sufficient to handle runoff from the proposed project components. As indicated under Section 2.6, implementation of CDCR's standard erosion controls, sedimentation controls, and stormwater system design would ensure that stormwater quality would be properly managed, and runoff would be properly directed to existing facilities, thereby inhibiting any erosion, siltation or flooding from occurring on- or offsite. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

Less than significant impact. Based on the discussions provided regarding the preceding checklist questions, the proposed project does not include any actions that are expected to substantially degrade water quality, and a less than significant impact to water quality would occur.

g-h) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map or impede or redirect flood flows?

No impact. The proposed project does not include any housing. According to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Number 06029C1250E, the project site is not located within a 100-year flood hazard area and, therefore, would not situate housing or structures in such a way that flood flows would be impeded or redirected. No impact would occur.

i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

No impact. The project is not located close to a levee or dam and is not located within a dam inundation area. Therefore, the project area is not susceptible to flooding as a result of levee or dam failure. No impact would occur.

j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

No impact. Seiches are waves in inland bodies of water produced by earthquakes or landslides. The project site is not located near an inland body of water capable of producing seiches. The project site is located approximately 83 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean and is not at risk for inundation by a tsunami. Terrain capable of producing a mudflow is not located close to the project site. No impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
10. Land Use and Planning *Would the project:*				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

This section describes the existing land use and potential effects from project implementation on the site and its surrounding area. As a state agency, CDCR is generally exempt from local plans, policies, and regulations, but it does consider them for purposes of complying with federal or state law.

Site Vicinity Setting

WSP is designated as Public Facilities on the Wasco General Plan Land Use Map and P-F Public Facilities on the City of Wasco Zoning Map. WSP is surrounded by agricultural land, a small residential area, the Valley Rose Golf Course, and the Wasco Cemetery (northeast); two rural residences and agricultural land (west); agricultural land and wastewater treatment plant (east); undeveloped and agricultural land (south); and agricultural land (north). WSP is approximately three miles west of Wasco and 30 miles northwest of Bakersfield.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

No impact. The proposed project would not physically divide an established community. WSP is located on approximately 270 of 630 acres under CDCR jurisdiction and is directly surrounded by agricultural fields in all directions. The residential area located to the northeast is more than 0.5 mile away and is separated from WSP by agricultural fields and SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway). All

project components would be located within the existing WSP boundary. Thus, the proposed project would not physically divide an established community and no impact would occur.

b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No impact. The proposed project would be located within existing WSP boundaries. WSP is designated as Public Facilities on the Wasco General Plan Land Use Map and P-F Public Facilities on the City of Wasco Zoning Map. As a correctional institution, WSP is consistent with both the land use and zoning designations. The proposed project would be consistent with existing institutional land uses and would not change existing operations. Therefore, no impact would occur.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities conservation plan?

No impact. CDCR has an approved HCP for its Statewide Electrified Fence Project (1999). The HCP covers the operation of lethal electrified fences that surround 27 state prisons, including WSP. The proposed project would not involve impacts or modification to the existing lethal electrified fence. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with the HCP.

The proposed project site is not located within the boundaries of any other HCP or natural communities conservation plan. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
11. Mineral Resources *Would the project:*				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

According to the California Geological Survey, the project site is located within the Bakersfield Production-Consumption Region, which contains State Geologist Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ) classifications 1, 2, and 3 (CGS 2009). The project site is located within MRZ-3, which indicates that the area contains mineral deposits the significance of which cannot be evaluated from available data (inferred presence). There are no active mines within the City of Wasco, and the closest oil field is the Wasco oil field, located approximately 0.7 mile west of the institution (County of Kern 2004).

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

No impact. The project site is completely within existing WSP boundaries and does not contain any known mineral resources. In addition, the existing CDCR institution precludes mineral extractions from occurring onsite. Therefore, no impact would occur.

b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No impact. As identified in discussion 11 a) above, the project site does not contain any known mineral resources. The existing WSP institution precludes mineral extractions from occurring. Furthermore, no proposed, existing, or known abandoned mines exist at WSP. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
12. Noise *Would the project result in:*				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Sound levels are presented in logarithmic decibels (dB). The dB is a logarithmic unit, which expresses the ratio of the sound pressure level being measured to a standard reference level. A-weighted decibels (dBA) approximate the subjective response of the human ear and are adjusted to reflect only those frequencies that are audible to the human ear.

The equivalent sound level (L_{eq}) represents a steady-state sound level containing the same total energy as a time varying signal over a given sample period. L_{eq} values for the evening period (7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.) are increased by five dB, while L_{eq} values for the nighttime period (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) are increased by 10 dB. Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) is used to characterize sound levels over a 24-hour period, with weighting factors included for evening and nighttime sound levels.

Applicable Regulations

Section 8.0 of the City of Wasco's General Plan provides noise compatible land use objectives and indicates that the maximum exterior noise level for noise sensitive land uses is 65 dBA CNEL. In addition, the City enforces applicable State Noise Insulation Standards and Uniform Building Code noise requirements.

Sensitive Receptors

Sensitive noise receptors are, in general, those areas of human habitation or substantial use where the intrusion of noise has the potential to adversely impact the occupancy, use, or enjoyment of the environment. These can include residences, schools, hospitals, parks, and places of business requiring low levels of noise. Correctional and government facilities, such as WSP and the proposed project's additions and renovations, are not considered noise-sensitive land uses. The majority of the properties surrounding WSP are used for agricultural purposes. However, residences are located to the west and northeast of WSP.

Existing Noise Levels

To determine the existing noise at and adjacent to the project site, field monitoring was conducted on September 11, 2013. Short-term noise measurements were taken at three locations in the project study area and were monitored for a minimum period of 15 minutes. The locations and results of the measurements are presented in Table 8. Exhibit 6 illustrates the noise monitoring locations.

Table 8: Short-Term Noise Level Monitoring Results

Site No.	Site Description	Start Time and Duration (Minutes)	Noise Level (dBA L_{eq})
NM1	Southwest of "A" Yard and east of the Warehouse facility.	10:22 a.m. (15:00)	59.2
NM2	North of "C" Yard and south of the adjacent agricultural field.	10:46 a.m. (15:00)	54.6
NM3	East of "D" Yard, west of the staff parking lot, and north of the Administrative building.	11:09 a.m. (15:00)	50.5
Source: MBA 2013.			

As shown in Table 8, the monitored existing noise levels ranged from 50.5 to 59.2 dBA L_{eq}, with the highest noise measurement at Site NM1.

Discussion

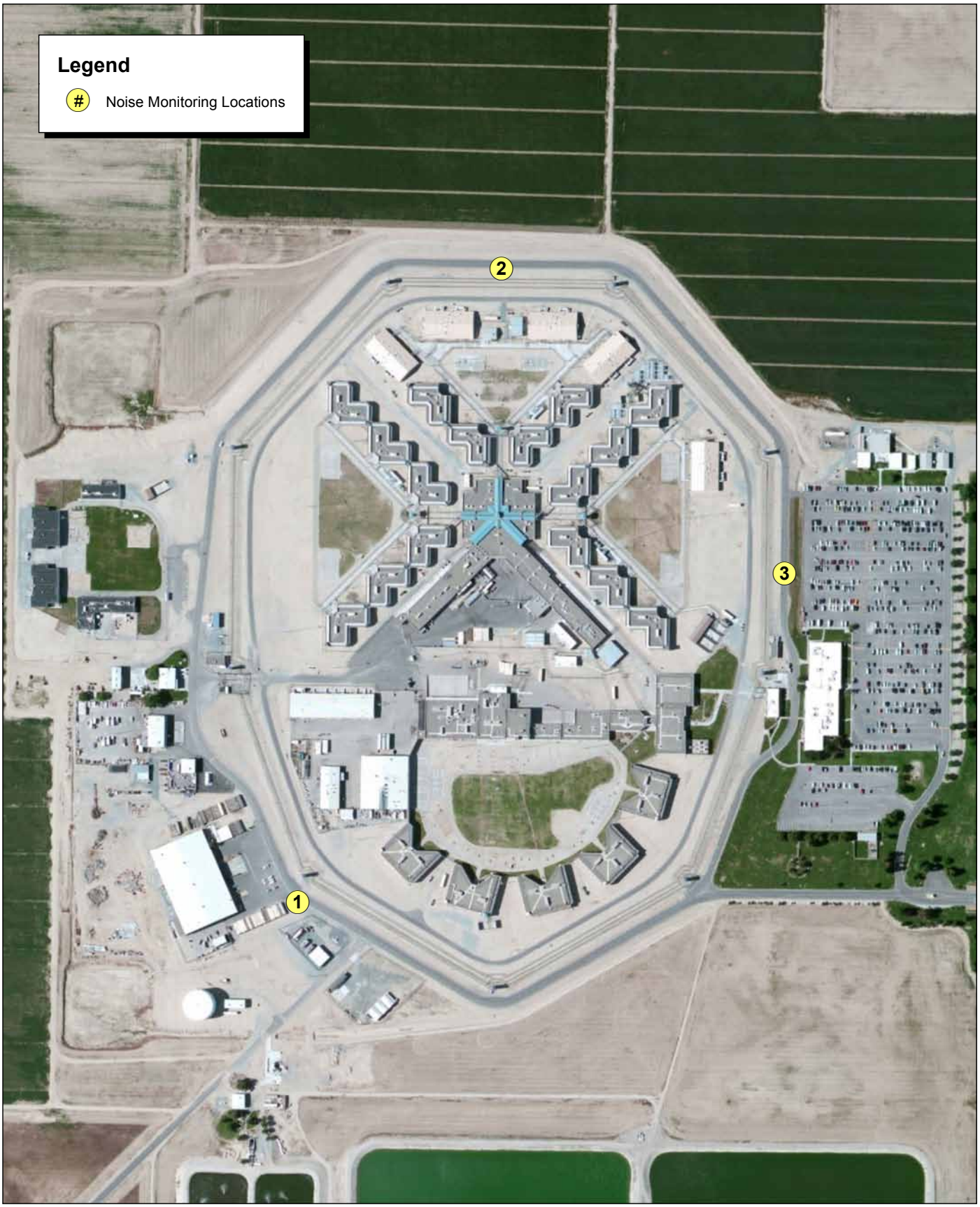
Would the project result in:

a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Less than significant impact. Short-term construction noise impacts would occur during construction activities from the transport of workers and movement of construction materials to and from the project site, and from the noise generated onsite during ground clearing, grading, and construction activities. Construction noise typically occurs intermittently and varies depending on the nature or phase of construction. Equipment required during the construction process would typically include backhoes, dozers, compactors, graders, front-end loaders, and trucks. Additional equipment, such as a portable crane and paving equipment, may also be required on a short-term and intermittent basis. Noise generated by construction equipment can reach high levels. Typical noise levels for individual pieces of construction equipment are summarized in Table 9. Renovation activities occurring within existing WSP facilities would not be likely to produce significant noise capable of affecting the surrounding areas.

Table 9: Typical Construction Equipment Noise Levels

Type of Equipment	Typical Noise Level (dBA) at 50 feet
Concrete Saw	90
Jack Hammer	88
Grader	85
Pneumatic Tools	85
Scraper	84
Compactor	83
Concrete Breaker	82
Dozer	82
Concrete Pump	81
Crane, Mobile	81
Generator	81
Water Pump	81
Front-end Loader	79
Air Compressor	78
Backhoe	78
Asphalt Paver	77
Trucks	74-81
Source: Federal Transit Administration 2011.	



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery.

Michael Brandman Associates

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Exhibit 6
Noise Monitoring Locations

Several of the proposed sub-projects would be constructed at locations that are surrounded by existing facilities that would block line-of-sight, and therefore attenuate construction and operational noise at nearby sensitive receptors. Sub-projects 2, 3, 4, and 5—which consists of the new Primary Care Clinic buildings and new Medication Distribution Rooms—would be the only components with direct exposure to existing surrounding sensitive receptors. Exhibit 3 illustrates the locations of the proposed sub-projects.

The closest offsite noise sensitive receptors (residences) are located approximately 3,040 feet west and 3,900 feet northeast of Sub-projects 2 and 3, respectively. Noise from a point source (such as a stationary piece of equipment) propagates at different rates, depending on the surfaces intervening between it and the receiver. With hard surfaces (such as concrete), noise is reduced at a rate of three dBA per doubling of distance from the source. With soft surfaces (such as natural landscaping), noise is reduced at a rate of six dBA for every doubling of distance. Surfaces between the sub-project sites and the identified offsite sensitive receptors are primarily agricultural lands consisting of hay, row, or orchard crops.

Based on previously mentioned distances and assuming that certain pieces of construction equipment can generate maximum noise levels of 90 dBA at a distance of 50 feet, resulting equipment-specific noise levels at the nearby sensitive receivers would be 54.3 dBA at the single residence to the west and 52.2 dBA at residences to the northeast.

The total resulting noise levels, including worst-case construction activities, would be well below the maximum allowable exterior noise level of 65 dBA CNEL. Therefore, any construction-related noise would have a less than significant noise impact.

Once fully operational, the proposed project's components would not involve the use of any major stationary noise sources or activities, nor would the project significantly change the existing noise generating activities onsite. Exterior mechanical equipment would be required for the new buildings and possibly the building additions. Noise levels generated by exterior mechanical equipment typically average between 55 and 85 dBA at three feet from the source (EPA 1971). Mechanical equipment is typically shielded from direct public exposure and usually housed on rooftops, within equipment rooms, or within exterior enclosures. The project's components would result in operations similar to those existing at WSP. As discussed under discussion 12 c) below, operational noise impacts from the proposed facilities would not exceed the exterior residential noise standard of 65 dBA CNEL at nearby sensitive receptors. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Less than significant impact. The metric for measuring groundborne noise and vibration is peak ground velocity (measured in inches per second). During the site preparation and construction phase, which includes site excavation activities, groundborne vibration and groundborne noise may occur. However, these excavation activities do not include activities known to induce strong vibration effects, such as those produced by tunneling or blasting. Furthermore, the site has already been graded as part of previous WSP construction activities.

The ground vibration levels associated with common construction equipment are depicted in Table 10. Ground vibration generated by construction equipment spreads through the ground and diminishes in strength with distance. The effects of ground vibration can vary from no perceptible effects at the lowest levels, low rumbling sounds and detectable vibrations at moderate levels, and slight damage to nearby structures at the highest levels. At the highest levels of vibration, damage to structures is primarily architectural (e.g., loosening and cracking of plaster or stucco coatings) and rarely results in structural damage. For most structures, a peak particle velocity (PPV) threshold of 0.5 inch per second is sufficient to avoid structural damage, with the exception of fragile historic structures or ruins. There are no fragile historic structures or ruins within the project's vicinity.

Table 10: Representative Vibration Source Levels for Construction Equipment

Equipment		Peak Particle Velocity at 25 feet (in/sec)
Pile driver (impact)	Upper range	1.518
	Typical	0.644
Pile driver (sonic)	Upper range	0.734
	Typical	0.170
Large bulldozer		0.089
Caisson drilling		0.089
Loaded trucks		0.076
Jackhammer		0.035
Small bulldozer		0.003
Source: Federal Transit Administration 2006.		

Long-term operation of the project would not involve the use of any equipment or processes that would result in potentially significant levels of ground vibration. Ground vibration generated by the proposed construction activities would be primarily associated with the use of jackhammers, loaded trucks, and other mobile equipment, which, as shown in Table 10, would result in vibration levels of

less than 0.09 inch per second PPV at 25 feet. Impact pile driving would not be required during project construction. Most ground vibration during construction would consist of onsite truck activity, which typically generates levels less than 0.08 in/sec PPV at 25 feet. In addition, the nearest sensitive receptor to the project is approximately 3,040 feet west of the nearest sub-project site.

Construction and development of the project are anticipated to result in vibration levels that would not exceed the PPV threshold of 0.5 inch per second. Furthermore, long-term operation of the proposed project would not involve the use of any equipment or processes that would result in potentially significant levels of ground vibration. As a result, impacts related to groundborne vibration levels will be less than significant.

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less than significant impact. The project's potential to substantially increase ambient noise levels in its vicinity is determined by the definition of the term "substantial." Substantial is not defined in the CEQA Guidelines. However, research into the human perception of sound level increases indicates the following:

- A 1-dBA or less increase is difficult to perceive,
- A 3-dBA increase is just perceptible,
- A 5-dBA increase is clearly perceptible, and
- A 10-dBA increase is perceived as being twice as loud.

Under typical outdoor ambient conditions, where constantly varying noise levels are occurring over time, people typically cannot clearly perceive increases in ambient noise levels until they reach approximately three dBA. Therefore, three dBA is generally accepted as the threshold beyond which increases to local ambient noise levels resulting from projects are considered substantial.

Considering the sound level perception thresholds and noise standards discussed above, a potentially significant increase in ambient noise levels would occur if noise generated by the project would permanently increase outdoor noise levels by three dBA or more, and if outdoor noise levels at a sensitive receiver would exceed the applicable noise standards.

The primary source of sound in the project's vicinity is from the nearby roadways and typical operations at WSP. SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway), a major arterial running north of the project site, is reported as having an annual average daily traffic rate of 17,500 vehicles (Caltrans 2012). Traffic trips would increase temporarily during construction because of construction workers traveling to and from the site and delivery of construction material and equipment. Once constructed, only a minimal increase in vehicle trips (related to the nine additional employees) to the project site would be expected. Furthermore, the project would be expected to result in a reduction of existing vehicle trips

generated by WSP, as the increased capacity of onsite medical services would alleviate the existing need for transport between WSP and offsite medical service locations. Typically, a doubling of vehicle traffic is required before a noticeable (three dBA or greater) increase in traffic noise levels would occur. Consequently, the proposed project would not result in a perceptible increase in local traffic noise levels.

In addition, long-term operational noise levels attributed to the proposed project are not anticipated to exceed applicable noise standards and/or result in any noticeable increase of three dBA or more in average daily ambient noise levels. Once fully operational, the proposed new buildings and additions would not involve the use of any major stationary noise sources or activities. In general, noise levels generated by building mechanical systems typically average between 55 and 85 dBA at three feet from the source (EPA 1971). Building mechanical equipment is typically shielded from direct public exposure and usually housed on rooftops, within equipment rooms, or within exterior enclosures. As shown by Table 8, noise levels at nearby sensitive receptors are already 50.5 to 59.2 dBA. The project components would result in operations similar to those existing at WSP and, accordingly, would not result in a significant perceptible change in ambient noise levels.

In summary, noise generated from operation of the proposed project would not create a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise, and impacts would be less than significant.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less than significant impact. Construction of the project could generate a temporary increase in noise, corresponding to the particular phase of building construction and the noise-generating equipment used during construction. Certain pieces of construction equipment can generate noise levels of 85 dBA or louder at a distance of 50 feet. Typical operating cycles for these types of construction equipment may involve one or two minutes of full power operation followed by three to four minutes at lower power settings. Although there could be relatively high, single-event noise exposure potential resulting in potential short-term intermittent annoyances, the effect in long-term ambient noise levels would be small when averaged over the total time period.

As shown by the existing noise reading results in Table 8, offsite ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project are between 50.5 to 59.2 dBA L_{eq}. As discussed above, the closest sensitive receiver to the project is approximately 3,040 feet to the west. At that distance, assuming a six-dBA drop-off rate, construction equipment that generates 90 dBA at 50 feet would be reduced to 54.3 dBA at the closest residence property line. When combined with ambient noise levels, the total maximum noise level during construction would be 60.4 dBA at the closest sensitive receiver, which is below the allowable 65-dBA threshold for residential uses.

Since temporary construction activities at WSP are not expected to exceed the maximum allowable noise level of 65 dBA at nearby sensitive receivers, impacts related to the temporary increase in ambient noise levels would be less than significant.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No impact. The nearest airport to WSP is the Wasco-Kern County Airport (three miles to the northeast). This distance precludes exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive airport noise levels. As such, no impact would occur.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No impact. The nearest private airstrip is Cashen Airport located more than seven miles northwest of WSP. This distance precludes exposure of people residing or working in the project area to excessive airport noise levels. As such, no impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
13. Population and Housing *Would the project:*				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

WSP is designated as Public Facilities on the Wasco General Plan Land Use Map and P-F Public Facilities on the City of Wasco Zoning Map.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

Less than significant impact. The proposed project would not include additional inmate beds. Nine additional employees would be required to meet the staffing needs of the new buildings at WSP. The potential relocation of up to nine employees to the project area would not be considered direct substantial population growth. The improvements include the addition and renovation of existing facilities and small new health care facilities, all of which would be located within the existing WSP footprint and would serve existing inmates. Therefore, the proposed project is not anticipated to induce substantial population growth in the area either directly or indirectly. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. The proposed project would not displace any existing housing units, inmates, or staff, and, therefore, would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impact would occur.

c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. The proposed project would not displace any existing housing units, inmates, or staff, and, therefore, would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
14. Public Services *Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:*				
a) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Police protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Fire Services

The WSP Fire Department provides fire protection and emergency response services to WSP. The Fire Department maintains a mutual aid agreement with the Kern County Fire Department.

Police Protection

WSP provides law enforcement within its boundaries and is supplemented by mutual aid agreements with the Kern County Sheriff's Department.

Schools

The project site is located within the Wasco Union Elementary School District and the Wasco Union High School District. The Wasco Union Elementary School District includes four elementary schools and one middle school. The Wasco Union High School District includes one high school.

Parks

Nearby recreational facilities consist of the City of Wasco's four city parks, the Valley Rose Golf Course, and the Kern National Wildlife Refuge.

Discussion

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

a) Fire protection?

Less than significant impact. The onsite fire department at WSP currently provides fire protection and emergency response services to WSP and would continue to do so with the construction of the proposed project. All proposed buildings and renovations would be constructed in compliance with applicable fire code regulations. Because the proposed project does not include additional inmate beds, and would require only nine additional staff members, a significant increase in fire protection and emergency medical services or facilities is not anticipated. The project would include the construction of new health care facilities and renovation of existing health care facilities, which would increase the medical capacity and decrease the number of medical-related emergency response calls. Therefore, the proposed project would not require the construction of new fire protection facilities or alter existing facilities to maintain performance objectives, and impacts would be less than significant.

b) Police protection?

Less than significant impact. WSP handles all law enforcement needs at the institution without local public law enforcement assistance and has sufficient resources to serve the proposed project. Because the proposed project does not include additional inmate beds, and would require the addition of nine additional staff members (eight of whom would serve as law enforcement within WSP), an increase in police protection services or facilities is not anticipated. Therefore, the proposed project would not interfere with local law enforcement agency services and would not require the construction of new facilities or alterations to existing facilities to maintain performance objectives. Impacts would be less than significant.

c) Schools?

No impact. The proposed project does not include additional inmate beds at WSP and would require the addition of only nine staff positions. The additional nine staff members would not result in a substantial increase in population requiring school facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not require the construction of new school facilities or alterations to existing facilities to maintain performance objectives, and the current school facilities would continue to meet the demand for schools. No impact would occur.

d-e) Parks? Other public facilities?

No impact. As previously indicated, the proposed project does not include additional inmate beds at WSP and would require only nine additional staff positions. The addition of nine staff members would not result in a substantial increase in population requiring parks or other public facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not require the construction of parks or other public facilities or alterations to existing facilities to maintain performance objectives. No impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
15. Recreation				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Nearby recreational facilities consist of the City of Wasco's four city parks, the Valley Rose Golf Course, and the Kern National Wildlife Refuge.

Discussion

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

No impact. Operation of the proposed project does not include additional inmate beds but would require nine additional employees at WSP, which would not be considered substantial population growth. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause a substantial increase in the use of local or regional recreational facilities. Accordingly, substantial physical deterioration of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities would not take place. No impacts would occur.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

No impact. The proposed project does not include the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. No impacts would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
16. Transportation/Traffic *Would the project:*				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

WSP is approximately three miles west of Wasco and 30 miles northwest of Bakersfield. Regional access to WSP is provided by SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway), SR-43, SR-99, and Interstate 5 (I-5) to the north, east, and west. Local access is provided primarily by Scofield Road and SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway). WSP is directly accessed via an entrance off Scofield Road.

The nearest public transportation service is the North Kern Express Regional Transit System, which operates between Delano and Bakersfield with stops in McFarland, Wasco, and Shafter. The Wasco Dial-A-Ride public transportation system also operates within the city limits of Wasco on an on-call

basis. The Amtrak Multi-Modal Transit Station is located approximately four miles to the east of WSP off G Street. There are no pedestrian facilities in the vicinity of WSP.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

Less than significant impact. The quality of roadway facility operations is described with the term "level of service" (LOS). Six levels are defined, with LOS A representing the best operating conditions (minimal vehicular congestion) and LOS F representing the worst operating conditions (substantial vehicular congestion). The City of Wasco General Plan Circulation Element indicates that LOS C is the established acceptable LOS within the City, except in the Central Business District and 7th Street corridor from Palm to State Highway 43 where a LOS D is acceptable (City of Wasco 2002). Caltrans establishes the LOS standard for SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway) at LOS D or better for signalized and unsignalized intersections. The following significant intersections generally surround the proposed project:

1. Scofield Road and SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway)
2. Scofield Road and Kimberlina Road
3. SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway) and Wildwood Road
4. SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway) and Valley Rose Parkway

Intersections and roadways surrounding WSP are generally two-way, stop-sign controlled, two-lane roads. Poso Drive and Jumper Avenue to the south and west of WSP, respectively, are not paved and are used primarily for agricultural activities. Traffic accessing WSP would not be likely to use these roadways.

Limited traffic volume data and existing LOS information is available for the roadways surrounding the project site. The nearest traffic count location is located south of the WSP entrance, north of Poso Drive on Scofield Road. Counts taken at this location in 1997 indicated 940 average daily trips (Kern Council of Governments 2013). More recently, a Subsequent EIR prepared for the Wasco Center Walmart (State Clearinghouse Number 2010091006), included traffic counts from 2007 and 2008 at the intersection of SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway) and Scofield Road. All turning movements with stop-sign restrictions were indicated as operating at LOS A or B at this intersection. Traffic volume data for SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway) at Rowlee Road, (approximately 3.5 miles west of the project

site) from Caltrans's Traffic and Vehicle Data Systems Unit indicate a 2012 annual average daily traffic rate of 17,500 vehicles (Caltrans 2012).

Project construction would result in short-term traffic increases on local roadways during off-peak hours. Proposed project construction work shifts would occur from 6:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Construction activities would average approximately 219 one-way trips or approximately 110 vehicles traveling to and from the project site per day (Vanir Construction Management 2013; MBA 2013). Because construction trips would be temporary and construction workers would arrive and depart during off-peak hours, thereby avoiding conflicts with adjacent street peak hour traffic conditions, construction traffic impacts would be less than significant.

The proposed project does not include additional inmate beds. Therefore, existing traffic levels related to inmate visitation would not change. The proposed project would only require nine new employees. The addition of these employees' traffic trips to and from the project site would not result in a significant increase in traffic levels, particularly when compared with the existing traffic levels on SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway). Eight of the additional employees would serve as custody staff and would be distributed between two separate shifts: 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., thereby requiring no work commute trips during peak traffic hours. The addition of traffic trips from the remaining additional employee, who would work during a standard daytime shift, would be minimal compared with the existing number of employee traffic trips to WSP and the existing traffic levels on SR-46 (Paso Robles Highway). Furthermore, the project would be expected to result in a reduction of existing vehicle trips generated by WSP, as the increased capacity of onsite medical services would alleviate the existing need for transport between WSP and offsite medical service locations. The addition of nine employees would not be expected to result in a substantial increase in mass transit ridership. Furthermore, the proposed project does not include any modifications to the existing circulation system outside of the institution. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

Less than significant impact. No congestion management plan is identified for the project area. As previously mentioned, the proposed project would result in the addition of only nine employees and related traffic trips and existing surrounding roadways operate at acceptable levels.

Project-related construction trips would be temporary, and primarily occur during off-peak hours, thereby avoiding conflicts with adjacent street peak-hour conditions. Additionally, the project would increase the capacity of onsite medical services, which is expected to reduce the current need for transportation to and from offsite medical service facilities and potentially result in a decrease in

number of trips and VMT. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with the applicable congestion management program and would not conflict with applicable level of service standards for designated roads or highways. Impacts would be less than significant.

c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

No impact. The nearest airport to WSP is the Wasco-Kern County Airport (three miles to the northeast). WSP is not located within the land use plan or safety zone of the airport. The proposed project does not contain any uses that could alter air traffic patterns. Therefore, no impact would occur.

d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

No impact. The proposed project is located on the grounds of the existing WSP institution. Existing roadways on the project site have been designed to safely serve the institution. The proposed project does not include the construction of any new roads. Minor driveways and reconfiguration of existing onsite roadways would occur. All roadway configurations implemented as part of the proposed project would conform to CDCR design and safety standards. Therefore, project construction and operation would not increase hazards that are due to a design feature or incompatible use, and no impact would occur.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

No impact. According to existing WSP staff, emergency access to the project site is adequate and in conformance with CDCR standards. Onsite emergencies are generally handled onsite and do not require outside access from emergency responders. Proposed project construction activities would occur entirely within the existing WSP property and would not change or impair emergency vehicle access to the institution. Project operation would not result in an increase in inmate beds and would add only nine employees. Therefore, existing emergency access would continue to be sufficient and no impact would occur.

f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

No impact. The proposed project would be located within the existing WSP property boundaries. Construction and operation of the proposed project is not expected to impact existing alternative transportation. Furthermore, the project is not expected to generate increases in pedestrian, bicycle, and bus transit demand. The proposed project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
17. Utilities and Service Systems *Would the project:*				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☒	☐
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

Potable Water

Potable water is supplied via the WSP water system, constructed in 1990 for the sole purpose of supplying potable water to WSP. The water system consists of two wells, a storage tank, a booster pump station, and a chlorination system. Each of the wells has a capacity of approximately 1,250 to 1,300 gpm and delivers raw water to a 2.0-million-gallon, aboveground, steel water storage tank located on the southeast corner of the prison. Annual water usage in 2008 was 329 million gallons or approximately 0.9 mgd, which is well within the capacity of the 2.0-million-gallon water storage tank and production capacity of the wells. Sufficient capacity exists to serve the project.

Wastewater

Wastewater generated at WSP is treated on facility grounds at the WSP's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The treatment process consists of influent screening, two aerated ponds, and two sedimentation ponds. Treated effluent is stored in two unlined storage ponds and then used to irrigate 296 acres of farmland owned by CDCR. The Wastewater Treatment Plant has a capacity of 1.1 mgd. WSP production of wastewater averages approximately 800,000 gallons of waste per day. Sufficient capacity exists to serve the project.

Stormwater

The storm drain system consists of perimeter swales, catch basins, and storm drains. The runoff is collected in a series of pipes and swales and routed into two percolation ponds that are each capable of containing runoff from a 50-year, 24-hour storm. Sufficient capacity is available to serve the proposed project.

Solid Waste

The project area is served by the Shafter-Wasco Landfill located approximately five miles south of WSP. The Shafter-Wasco Landfill has a maximum permitted daily capacity of 1,500 tons per day, and as of 2001 had an estimated remaining capacity of 7.9 million cubic yards and a closure date of 2027 (CalRecycle 2013).

WSP operates a recycling and salvage program that reduces waste delivered to landfills by as much as 40 percent. Regulated medical waste is collected by a private contractor for processing and final disposal.

Electricity and Natural Gas

Electricity is provided by Pacific Gas and Electric. Power is supplied via existing 115-kilowatt and 12-kilovolt (kV) substation equipment located immediately northeast of WSP. The substation is rated 5 megavolt-amperes/4.25 megawatts (MW) in its current configuration. The transformer secondary distribution voltage is rated 12.47 kV, 3 phase. Emergency power is supplied by two standby generators rated at 2 MW each.

Natural gas is provided by the Southern California Gas Company. WSP's natural gas is metered by a pressure regulating station located at the northeast corner of the prison site along the northern edge of the staff parking lot. Should natural gas service be interrupted, the liquefied petroleum gas standby system is located immediately to the north of the meter for emergency use.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

Less than significant impact. WSP produces, on average, 800,000 gallons of wastewater per day. WSP's existing onsite wastewater collection system has a capacity of 1.1 million gallons per day. Therefore, the system meets current demands and has sufficient capacity to accommodate the proposed improvements. The treatment plant is required to operate in compliance with its current NPDES permit, thereby ensuring wastewater treatment requirements are met.

The proposed project includes upgrades to existing health care service facilities and expansion of facilities to support improvement of health care services to the existing inmate population. The proposed project does not include additional inmate beds. Nine additional staff members would be required. Since water usage and, therefore, wastewater production at CDCR institutions are largely driven by inmate levels, and since no increase in inmate beds would occur, water usage increases would be minimal. Furthermore, the new buildings and renovations would be constructed using the best available water conservation devices. Accordingly, the proposed project would not exceed wastewater treatment requirements and impacts would be less than significant.

b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

No Impact. Water and wastewater facilities are discussed separately below.

Water Facilities

WSP's annual water usage in 2008 was 329 million gallons or approximately 0.9 mgd, which is well within the capacity of the 2.0 million gallon water storage tank and production capacity of the wells. Therefore, the existing WSP water system has sufficient capacity to serve the proposed project. Water usage at WSP has recently been reduced significantly as a result of the installation of toilet flush control valves and a reduction in inmate population. More importantly for the proposed project, negligible additional water consumption would result from installation of new health care facilities because they would continue providing services already performed at the institution. No new inmate beds would be added. Only nine additional staff members would be added. Since water usage at CDCR institutions is largely driven by the number of inmates, and no increase in inmate beds would occur, water use increases would be minimal. Furthermore, the new buildings and renovations would be constructed using the best available water conservation devices. Therefore, no new or expanded water facilities are necessary for the proposed project. No impact would occur.

Wastewater Facilities

WSP produces, on average, 800,000 gallons of wastewater per day. WSP's existing onsite wastewater collection system has a capacity of 1.1 million gallons per day. Therefore, the system meets current demands and has sufficient capacity to accommodate the proposed improvements.

As previously indicated, the project primarily includes upgrades to existing health facilities and expansion of facilities to support improvement of existing health care services to the inmate population. No new inmate beds would be added, and only nine additional staff members would be required. Since wastewater production at CDCR institutions is largely driven by inmate levels, and no increase in inmate beds would occur, wastewater production increases would be minimal. Furthermore, the new buildings and renovations would be constructed using the best available water conservation devices. Therefore, sufficient capacity is available to serve the proposed project.

In summary, the proposed project would not require or result in the construction or expansion of water or wastewater facilities and no impacts would occur.

c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Less than significant impact. The proposed project components would increase impervious surface coverage at WSP by 24,987 square feet or approximately 1.2 percent. This increase in impervious surface area is a nominal amount compared with the existing 2,100,000 square feet of impervious surfaces. Therefore, existing stormwater infrastructure would be sufficient to serve the proposed project. Furthermore, as indicated in Section 2.6, CDCR would implement standard stormwater system designs to ensure stormwater runoff is safely retained, detained, and/or conveyed and no net increase of stormwater outfall would occur. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

No impact. See response to discussion 17 b) above. Increase in water demand associated with the project would be minimal. Therefore, current supplies would be sufficient. No impact would occur.

e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Less than significant impact. See response to discussion 17 b) above. Because wastewater production at CDCR institutions is largely driven by inmate levels and no increase in inmate beds would occur, wastewater production increases would be minimal. WSP produces, on average, 800,000 gallons of wastewater per day. WSP's existing onsite wastewater collection system has a

capacity of 1.1 million gallons per day. Therefore, the system meets current demands and has sufficient capacity to accommodate the proposed improvements. Impacts would be less than significant.

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

Less than significant impact. Solid waste from WSP is transported to the Shafter-Wasco Landfill, located approximately five miles south of the project site. The Shafter-Wasco Landfill has a maximum permitted daily capacity of 1,500 tons per day, and as of 2001 had an estimated remaining capacity of 7.9 million cubic yards and a closure date of 2027.

Project construction would result in solid waste over the 20-month construction period. Construction-related solid waste would be recycled to the extent possible and remaining waste would be disposed at the Shafter-Wasco Landfill. Since construction waste disposal would be temporary and sufficient capacity exists, impacts would be less than significant.

CDCR bases waste generation rates on a factor of 3.6 pounds per inmate per day. However, the proposed project would not result in an increase in inmate beds. As such, negligible increases in operational waste production would be expected. While medical facilities have the potential to generate substantial amounts of waste, the proposed project would provide replacement and expanded space for existing medical facilities and services. As such, negligible increases in the existing medical waste production would be expected. Given the permitted capacity and anticipated closure date, sufficient permitted capacity is available at the Shafter-Wasco Landfill to accommodate the project's waste disposal needs. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Less than significant impact. As part of standard procedure, the proposed project would be required to abide by all applicable local, state, and federal solid waste disposal regulations. As previously discussed, WSP implements several recycling programs. Furthermore, solid waste created by the construction and operation of the proposed project would be a small percentage of the overall waste production of the institution. Therefore, impacts related to solid waste regulation compliance would be less than significant.

Environmental Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
18. Mandatory Findings of Significance				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Less than significant impact. As evaluated in this IS/Proposed ND, the proposed project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment; substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species; cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels; threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community; reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species; or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. As described under Section 2.6, the project includes specific environmental protection design features to ensure avoidance of impacts to avian species, previously undiscovered human remains, and water quality. Therefore, less than significant impacts from project implementation would occur.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

Less than significant impact. Cumulative air quality and traffic impacts are considered in Section 3.3 and Section 3.16, respectively, in this IS/Proposed ND. As described in the impact analyses in Sections 3.1 through 3.17 of this IS/Proposed ND, the proposed project would not result in any potentially significant impacts requiring mitigation. The project would also not cause, or result in, a cumulatively considerable contribution to any significant adverse impacts when considered in connection with the effects of past projects, current projects, or probable future projects, primarily because the incremental contributions of the HCFIP are so modest.

Other current or probable future projects near the proposed project site that could cause related impacts are listed in Appendix C. No other projects that could cause related impacts are proposed by CDCR, and as discussed in this document, the proposed project's impacts are so limited they would not contribute considerably to any significant local or regional impacts. As explained in this IS/Proposed ND, CDCR has incorporated measures into the project such that its incremental impacts will not be cumulatively considerable (see Section 2.6, Environmental Protection Design Features). Accordingly, the incremental addition of impacts from the proposed project would be considered less than cumulatively considerable.

c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Less than significant impact. The proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause substantial adverse effects on human beings. Air quality and/or noise would be the only avenues through which the project could have a substantial effect on human beings. However, all potential effects of the proposed project related to air quality and noise are identified as less than significant. The impact analysis included in this IS/Proposed ND indicates that for all other resource areas, the proposed project would have either no impact or less than significant impact.

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